

AUSTRALIAN AND BRITISH SOCCER WEEKLY AUSTRALIA

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AUSIHALIAN AND BRILLISH SOCCER WENT! AUSIHALIAN

SOCCER

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WEEKLY

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POSTER: MASAMI IHARA

Oceania President speaks out

Editorial

The focus of attention in the World Game sphere has, and continues to be, the disagreement between Soccer Australia and some of the National League Clubs.

However it is resolved, or more likely put into abeyance, is the subject of enormous debate between individuals who may have no real interest in the game itself. People steeped in the game have spent many hours talking over the pros and cons.

The print media, including ABSW, have devoted large amounts of column inches (yes the old imperial measure is still used in speech on this subject). Johnny Warren had an extensive opinion piece in the Sydney Morning Herald last week, followed by a response from Negus a day later. David Hill, George Negus and Tony Labbozzetta have appeared on radio for interviews. Two live interviews were at 6.35am!

News services on radio and TV have covered the subject extensively. Still it is not resolved.

Some unfortunate words crept into the former Soccer Captain's piece which Warren probably regrets. Certainly Negus wasn't pleased.

It is regrettable when two people who love the World Game exchange angry words in public.

The damage done to Rugby League by the Murdoch Super League fiasco is immeasurable, except that a reported crowd of 2500 at the Sydney Football Stadium on a weekend earlier this month may have been the result.

However those with the feel and knowledge of marketing would argue that any publicity, is good publicity. It is doubtful that in the present case this will prove to be the situation.

Getting and keeping Soccer in the mainstream of mass communication is a difficult task. Unless we have a minor scuffle in the crowd which blows out to 'A Riot' in the popular press, then we rarely make the news.

Every opportunity has to be taken to market our game, generally that needs to be in a positive manner.

The ongoing dispute may have done much more harm than good.

Last Thursday at the Sydney Football Stadium, overlooking that great venue, Charlie Dempsey met the media.

Charlie is the President of the Oceania Football Confederation and in July at the FIFA Congress in Zurich, Switzerland he saw a dream come true.

Oceania received full Confederation status with all the associated rights, privileges and responsibilities. The body now enjoys equal status in the eyes of FIFA with Asia, Europe, CONCACAF, South America and Africa.

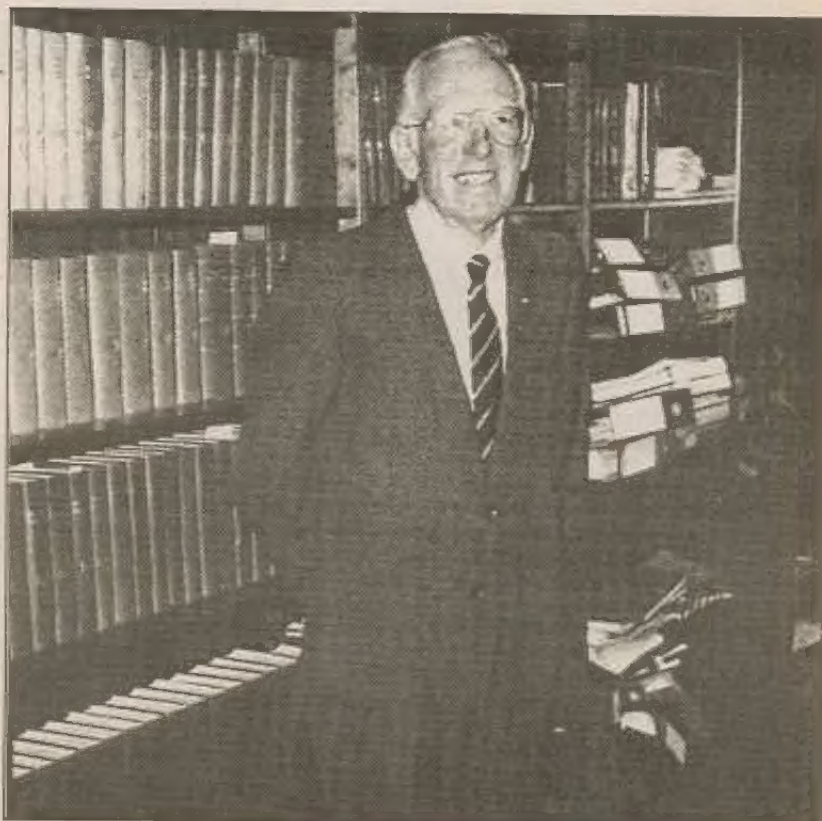
The stated ambition of Australia was to one day join the Asian Confederation. In fact, Australia was the only country to vote against the motion in Zurich which gave full status to Oceania. For the record 172 voted in the affirmative.

answering questions with precision and clarity. He gives the initial impression of being a man of simple tastes but he can obviously move well in the highest echelons of the Sports world.

Modest with his achievements he started out as an engineering apprentice in Scotland. On his most recent visit to the country of his birth there was only one other of his year still alive. From Charlie's depiction of life in that country the others might have died of boredom.

Life is certainly not boring for this very active Kiwi. His move to New Zealand was typical of many British migrants. Charlie served in the Royal Navy during the 2nd World War. His ship came to the Pacific and he very much liked what he saw.

In 1952 he and his wife moved to New Zealand and he



Charlie Dempsey: Live wire and respected President of the Oceania Football Confederation.



However, Australian officials can now see a great opportunity to be the big fish in a small pond.

As Charlie says it is more likely that the Champion of Oceania will qualify direct from the Confederation for the Olympic Games and most importantly the World Cup. The President believes 2002 may be the ideal year for this latter to happen.

Mr Dempsey reckons that having two Asian Confederation nations jointly hosting and automatically qualifying for the World Cup could mean that Asia may only get two additional places.

This situation will leave room for manoeuvre and a chance for Oceania to exploit.

The devoted New Zealander, with the Scottish accent, is a confident speaker,

quickly became involved in the local Soccer scene. Eight years later he was elected an Auckland Football Association Councillor. 1966 saw Charlie elected to the OFC Executive Committee. 1982 was a very important year for Charlie Dempsey as he was elected both Chairman of the NZFA and President of OFC.

Like Martin Luther King, "he had a dream". It came in 1966 and that was for Oceania to gain full Confederation status. Thirty years later, Charlie's dream was realised.

This modest, and humble man, has achieved a great deal in his lifetime. He has served his adopted country and Oceania well. His love of the World Game never waivers with recent trips to Euro 96 and the Olympic Games under his belt.



Arabia as host, Germany, Uruguay, Brazil as current World Cup holders. Japan will represent the Asian Football Confederation with CONCACAF still to decide.

Each participating country will receive \$US500,000 just for being there. The six Confederations will also receive \$US500,000 to defray costs.

That is just one of the advantages of being a fully FIFA recognised Confederation, Charlie is proud to tell you.



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GOOD BYE & GOOD LUCK MARY



Happy Birthday to Mary Quartly for yesterday. She is a much admired and respected member of the ABSW staff who will be sadly leaving us this week after almost seventeen years with the sports paper. She departs to await the birth of her first baby — GOOD BYE & GOOD LUCK, MARY!

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NSW Super League Grand Final

Buds plucked by swooping Eagles

BY JOHN ECONOMOS

PARRAMATTA EAGLES who were so unceremoniously, and according to many, unjustifiably ostracised from the National League last year, tasted exquisite sweet revenge when they took out the 1996 NSW Grand Final, defeating a gallant Adamstown Rosebuds 5-3 on penalties last Sunday at Marconi Stadium.

Not only did the Eagles fly into the records to join the nest of previous champions, but their victory proved a lucrative one.

Having finished four points clear of second placed Sutherland in Round 2 of the competition, the Eagles automatically collected \$10,000.

Sunday's victorious Final added to their winning booty by another \$20,000.

But the Eagles had to struggle against a very defiant and unyielding Adamstown Rosebuds before they could place their claws on the trophy, and cash.

So closely were these two teams matched, after extra time the scoreline still read 1-1 and it took a penalty shoot-out to separate them.

The Eagles flew to the lead in the 25th minute through their tenacious attacking left midfielder Christian Ortiz. He was well positioned inside the box to strike a lovely left footed drive into the target,

following excellent lead up work by right midfielder David Harding.

Adamstown belatedly levelled the scoreline in the 76th minute through a somewhat soft penalty.

Adamstown's powerful left midfielder Dale Robertson was roughly challenged off the ball by the Eagles' battling right-back Nick Purdue for referee Simon Micallef to point to the spot.

Veteran and former international defender Graham Jennings smashed a strong left-footed drive into the target, simultaneously sending the Eagles' goalkeeper Jason Holmes the wrong way as he elected to dive to his right.

Ironically Adamstown Rosebuds could have taken the lead as early as the 17th minute.

Dale Robertson crossed into the box for the ever-green 34 year old central midfielder, John McQuarrie. But to his disappointment, although McQuarrie connected well with his first time blast, his drive ricocheted off the base of the right post to be denied any joy.

The very hard working McQuarrie playing his last match before retiring, had an excellent chance to level again 10 minutes after the break.

But as he charged into the box, the Eagles' 'keeper Holmes, was off his line in a flash to gather in the ball first.

On the hour mark Parramatta's striker Michael Reda should have doubled the scoreline, but faced with a

one-on-one situation with Adamstown's ball-playing 'keeper Liam Baker, Reda lost control allowing the ball to run over the byline.

Just five minutes after Adamstown's substitute Allan Gilday came on he threatened the goal, but the Eagles' defence closed him down to deny the Buds yet another chance to equalise.

The struggle after a lustreless hour of play, livened up as the Buds came more and more into the picture.

Whilst the Eagles elected to play with a flat back-four of Purdue, George Souris, Mark Reveley and Tony Danaskos, the Buds coached by Neville Power for the last time before retiring, were more conservative as they defended with five at the back.

Cameron Hudson, Rocco De Grandis, Chris Jonas and Graham Jennings were solidly covered by their experienced lateral defender, Neil Owens.

The midfield saw a torrid battle as the Buds so brilliantly led by playmaker McQuarrie, flanked by David Bock on his right with Robertson on his left, made life difficult for the Eagles.

Adamstown's striker Brett

Mr Micallef sent the game into extra time with the 'Golden-Goal' rule in force.

In the 102nd minute Adamstown's strapping striker Eldridge almost broke the deadlock to grab the championship.

Fighting off the Eagles' defence wide out on the right flank with excellent ball-control, Eldridge suddenly let fly with a most lethal shot from an acute angle, but his explosive drive rocked the cross-bar.

Substitute Peter Budden threatened for the Buds, this time in the 110th minute as he rifled a rising red-hot drive from 12 metres that skimmed the horizontal.

PENALTY SHOOT-OUT

With no further score in the 'Sudden-death' extra time, the match was decided by the most dreaded penalty shoot-out with only Jennings failing to score and Reda hitting the winner.

Penalty Shoot-out Scorers: Surjan, Bock, Meilak, Jennings (blocked), Harding, Gilday, Ortiz, Owens, Reda.

Victorious Eagles' Coach Washington Gonzalez, after having just seen his team take out the 1996 Grand Final, was surprisingly un-emotional in the dressing rooms as his players broke out loudly into victorious singing.

The former Eagles' sweeper stated to ABSW, "This win was very important for our Club as well as for me.

"It will mean a lot for our future, especially as far as national league Soccer is concerned."

When questioned why he took off his robust striker Geoff Gunning in the 64th minute, the explanation was quite simple, "Geoff had broken his big toe in the first session but I allowed him to play on for a bit in the second half till I saw him struggling. Then I just had to substitute him even though he was reluctant to come off."

A D A M S T O W N
ROSEBUDS: Baker: Hudson (Budden 105), De Grandis, Owens, Jonas, Jennings: Bock, McQuarrie, Robertson: (Sanderson) McGuire (Gilday 69), Eldridge.

P A R R A M A T T A
EAGLES: Holmes: Purdue, Souris, Reveley, Danaskos: Harding, Huxley, Ortiz: Gunning (Meilak 64), Reda.

SCORERS: Parramatta: Ortiz (25) Adamstown: Jennings (76 pen).

Yellow Cards: Purdue 87 for Parramatta. Sanderson 103 for Adamstown.

Referee: Simon Micallef.
Crowd: 2,500.



Neville Power: The Buds Coach has retired.

Eldridge caught the eye as he repeatedly displayed excellent skills and strength on the ball upfront.

But Parramatta's central line of Harding, David Huxley and the creative Ortiz raiding the left line with monotonous regularity, kept the opposition in check.

Ortiz was magnificent for the Eagles as was goalkeeper Holmes together with skipper and robust marksman Geoff Gunning who courageously battled on despite a broken toe and was eventually replaced in the second session.

With the scoreline locked in at 1-1 after regulation time,



Parramatta Eagles: A delighted team celebrates for their fans and the cameras at Marconi Stadium last Sunday after beating Adamstown on penalties.

Goalscoring Academy Coming

BY BOB BROOKS

The second intake for Dez Marton's goalscoring academy are busy enrolling. They take the field on September 16 for 12 weeks.

Two sessions of an hour each are conducted each week giving 24 hours of tuition.

Like anything worthwhile sacrifices are required of individual players and parents. Sessions are conducted prior to school and after school.

If the weather is unsuitable for outdoor work then the academy moves into the Rockdale Police Youth Club next door to Ador Park, Rockdale.

In the accompanying photograph, youngster Jason Naidovski prepares to meet the oncoming ball with his trusty left foot.



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MEDIA RELEASE FROM SOCCER AUSTRALIA LOGO ISSUE UPDATE

Soccer Australia confirmed negotiations were continuing today (Tuesday August 20) in Melbourne with Ericsson Cup clubs over the requirement for new logos.

A Soccer Australia spokesman said that Ericsson Cup clubs were meeting in Melbourne with Soccer Australia Chief Executive, David Woolley, Ericsson Cup General Manager Stefan Kamasz and Marketing Manager Jim Shomos.

So far Soccer Australia has no difficulties with the proposed logos and playing strips of 11 of the 14 clubs who have agreed to participate in the 1996/97 Ericsson Cup.

Today discussions will attempt to resolve the issue with the 3 remaining clubs — Marconi Fairfield, Sydney United and Melbourne Knights.

The Chairman of Soccer Australia, David Hill has also asked the President of Soccer Australia, The Hon Neville Wran to assist in the mediation of the issue.

Hill said Wran had impeccable credentials to assist. "He has a life long commitment to multiculturalism and as Premier of New South Wales introduced the first Ethnic Affairs commission and Anti Discrimination board."

"The Board of Soccer Australia has the responsibility and authority to decide on the design of the national league and the conditions of entry for teams to participate. These decisions have been made and the overwhelming majority of clubs have indicated they are prepared to comply."

"However, we have asked Neville Wran if he is able to mediate in an effort to resolve the issue as quickly as possible and with as little further disruption to the game as possible."

Given the pre season competition, the Johnnie Walker Cup, is scheduled to commence in just over 2 weeks Soccer

Mike Rann Joins the Debate

The Honorable Mike Rann, MP, State Labor Leader of South Australia issued a statement last Wednesday which included his personal letter to David Hill, Chairman of Soccer Australia. Here we reproduce the full texts.

South Australia's Labor Opposition Leader believes soccer clubs should be allowed to include ethnic symbols and colours on team shirt logos.

Mr Rann, who is heavily involved in soccer in South Australia, has written to the Chairman of Soccer Australia, David Hill, expressing his concern that the current controversy over club logos is doing "extraordinary damage to our sport in Australia."

"If Soccer Australia's move to ban logos is successful I fear any gains will be far outstripped by the loss of sponsors, by bitter divisions within clubs, and by a worsening of relationships between clubs and the Federation."

"I do not have any problems with logos that include, for instance, the colours of the Italian flag. I see it as a small, but significant, recognition of a club's roots and heritage."

Multiculturalism recognises that Australia's greatness is derived from the many cultures that make up our community.

Through multiculturalism we have asked migrants to embrace Australia, but also to cherish their heritage and culture.

Wearing a logo with the Italian colours is totally consistent with Australian Multiculturalism. That's why I support the retention of Adelaide City's traditional logo.

I believe Australian multiculturalism is strong enough to cope with logos like this which rightfully recognise the contribution

that migrants have made to the developments of soccer within Australia," Mr Rann said.

**Mr David Hill
Chairman
Soccer Australia
PO Box 175
PADDINGTON 2021
Dear David,**

I am writing to you as a life long supporter of soccer. I am a member of four soccer clubs, and a Vice President (City Slicker) of Adelaide City. I attend dozens of soccer games each year.

I am writing to you on my own behalf as an individual who loves soccer and wants to see it grow from strength to strength in Australia.

For some years I have supported efforts to broaden the membership of clubs, particularly those clubs which have strong ethnic roots. However, I am most concerned that the current controversy over club logos is doing extraordinary damage to our sport in Australia.

If Soccer Australia's move to ban logos is successful I fear any gains will be far outstripped by the loss of sponsors; by bitter divisions within clubs, and by a worsening of the relationship between clubs and the Federation. It is important to broaden the base of clubs, but it will be a tragedy if we 'throw the baby out with the bath water.'

As I mentioned, I am a keen supporter as

well as member of Adelaide City. I attend all their home games. I was born in Britain, and I am a naturalised Australian. I am a former Minister Assisting the Minister of Multicultural and Ethnic Affairs.

I do not have any problems with Adelaide City players wearing a team shirt that has a logo that includes the colours of the Italian flag. I see it as a small, but significant, recognition of the club's roots and heritage.

It is true that I have been critical of the excessive nationalism displayed by the Melbourne Knights, but it would be wrong to put Adelaide City in the same category.

This year Adelaide City is celebrating its golden anniversary. It is an outstanding club with an outstanding record. The Italian colours on the logo is to me, a non Italian, a simple and worthwhile recognition of the club's historical and cultural links.

The concept of multiculturalism, begun in South Australia by Don Dunstan, and pursued by Labor Governments around Australia, recognises that Australia's greatness is derived from the many cultures that make up our community.

Through multiculturalism we have asked migrants to embrace Australia, but also to cherish their heritage and culture. Wearing a logo with the Italian colours is totally consistent with Australian multiculturalism. That's why I support the retention of Adelaide City's traditional logo.

I believe Australian multiculturalism is

strong enough to cope with logos like this which rightfully recognise the contribution that migrants have made to the development of soccer in Australia.

British clubs have colours and emblems that draw from their history and cultural roots. Glasgow's Celtic emblem and colours recognise its Irish ancestry. Boca Juniors of Argentina is of Italian origins.

In the United States there are basketball teams such as the Boston Celtics and football clubs like Notre Dame's Fighting Irish which recognise their history and background.

Adelaide City has been a model citizen. It has been a 'good friend' to smaller clubs from a non Italian background. It has worked hard to reach out to include members (and Vice Presidents like me) from a non Italian background. Its sponsors include companies with no association to the Italian community, as well as businesses run by Italo-Australians.

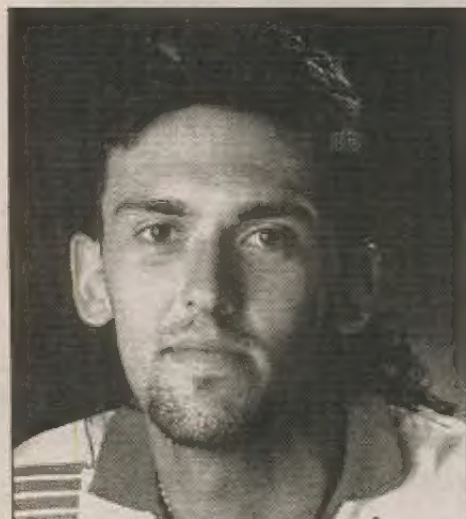
I believe Australian soccer is on the verge of a major step forward. However, I am most concerned that this controversy over club logos will do immeasurable and long term damage, particularly to those soccer clubs that have helped build the sport in Australia and are the incubators for our national team.

I look forward to hearing from you.
Yours sincerely,
Mike Rann
Leader of the Opposition

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PROUD GEOFF GUNNING

CAPTAIN OF THE CHAMPIONS

BY JOHN ECONOMOS

GEOFF GUNNING, the 30 year old warhorse, had just skippered his team Parramatta Eagles to take out the NSW 1996 Grand Final last Sunday at Marconi Stadium when ABSW spoke to him.

"I believe we had the game won early. But then they (Adamstown Rosebuds) pinched a penalty.

"Any Grand Final win is a good win. "We are not finished yet," threatened the Eagles' captain with a serious tone.

"There are still more Cups to win ('Waratah' and 'Johnnie Walker').

"I like playing for Parramatta Eagles as it is a great Club to play for".

The Eagles' barrel-chested marksman, battled hard despite the pain he suffered from a broken toe before finally being forced to reluctantly leave the pitch in the second session.

Meanwhile two of Adamstown Rosebud's heroes, left defender Graham Jennings and central midfielder John McQuarrie, were both playing their final game before retiring from first class Soccer.

Jennings, a former World Cup defender for Australia, made an emotional farewell speech on the pitch to his team:

"It has been a great honour and pleasure playing with you guys over the last three years.

"I thank you," ended Jennings as he walked off the pitch for the last time.

McQuarrie, who had run himself into the ground, had taken off his boots as he quietly stood and listened to the presentation speeches.

Aged 34 and having played with Apia-Leichhardt then the Newcastle Breakers before joining Adamstown, this pocket-sized dynamo could arguably have been voted as 'Man Of The Match' for his tenacity and extremely high work-rate.

When approached McQuarrie told ABSW: "This was my last game and I wanted it to be a good one for the boys.

"Especially so for Graham Jennings who I respected a lot.

"But we just couldn't do it in the end."



Geoff Gunning: Proudly holding the NSW Super League Championship Trophy.



John McQuarrie: Veteran player made his final appearance on Sunday.

Northern NSW ITC Women's Champions



The winning team after their hard fought victory over Marconi last Sunday find time to relax.

NORTHERN NSW ITC Womens' team won the 1996 Grand Final last Sunday in a tight struggle against a valiant but luckless Marconi, at Marconi Stadium.

The Northern NSW girls coached by former Sydney Croatia midfielder Mark Jones, defeated an unyielding Marconi 3-2 on penalties after the final scoreline with extra time played had ended at 0-0.

A smiling Captain and striker, Shelley Youman, aged 29, when approached by ABSW immediately after receiving her Champions' medal, excitedly stated, "I've played in many Grand Finals.

"But this one has easily been the very best one for me."



Shelley Youman (Captain) and Mark Jones (Coach): Proudly hold the NSW Women's Championship Trophy at Marconi Stadium.

NSW U20s squad For KOREA



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NICK THEODORAKOPOULOS, newly appointed coach of the NSW Under 20s that will tour South Korea early next month announced his squad of 20 to ABSW last night.

"I had to make some tough decisions as there is an abundance of talent around from which to choose," stated the Wollongong City coach.

The NSW team will leave for South Korea on September 5th and will play two matches, over six days.

The squad will train on Saturday at the NSW Soccer Federation's headquarters at Parklea, and play a trial match next Tuesday against a Korean under 20 side currently on tour of Australia.

While in Korea NSW will play against a Korean University XI, followed by a second match against the Korean Olympic Team.

Nick Theodorakopoulos will cut the squad from 20 down to 16 today. The reduced squad will depart for Seoul at the end of next week.

The training squad of 20 is as follows:

GOALKEEPERS:

Adrian Thompson (Millwall — now living in Sydney), Trinity Allen (Wollongong City) and Adam Brockbank (Parramatta Eagles).

DEFENDERS:

Eddie Bosnar (AIS), Billy Gjackovski (Wollongong City), Glen Moore (Newcastle), Michael Kladis (Marconi), Peter Ritchie (Newcastle), Steve Laybutt (Wollongong City), Vaughan Hunter (Marconi).

MIDFIELDERS:

Ante Seric (AIS), Brad Ermerton (UTS Olympic), Mark Robertson (Marconi), Raphael Bove (UTS Olympic), Jacob Byrnes (Sydney United), Christian Care (AIS), Kane Rastall (UTS Olympic).

STRIKERS:

Carlos Gonzales (UTS Olympic), Michael Cunico (AIS) and Clayton Zane (Newcastle).

Four of the above will be cut from the final squad later today.



Clayton Zane: Newcastle Breakers lean goalscorer.



Nick Theodorakopoulos: Coach of NSW U20s.

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SA has chosen wrong cause

Dear Sir,
Although I am a strong supporter of David Hill's campaign to tone down the ethnic identities of Australian Soccer Clubs, I feel he has gone too far in regards to club logos.

I have no problem with SA wanting clubs to change things so as to be more appealing to the general public.

For instance, why must Sydney United call their home ground the Sydney Croatian Sports Centre? Why have Sydney United failed to take down the Sydney Croatia sign at the ground which features so prominently everytime there is any television coverage?

Having spent so much money and effort building such a great facility for football can't the Sydney United supporters see that it is in their own interests to attract more English, German, Dutch, Scottish, Welsh, Vietnamese, Polish... and "yes" Australians to the Grandstands.

Sydney United, Marconi, Melbourne Knights are truly great clubs and although I think they must adhere to the new SA regulations I feel it is unfair that they are being stripped of every last thread of tradition they have created. New traditions must be

created. For instance, Sydney United should become West Sydney United with their home ground at Endorsor Stadium.

Marconi should become the South Sydney Stallions with their home ground at Endorsor Stadium. As a part of this new tradition I believe new logos that incorporate the Italian red, white and green and the Croatian "Sahovica" (checker board) would be a more subtle way of acknowledging the old traditions which founded these clubs.

Maybe one day soon being a West Sydney United supporter will not automatically mean you are proud of your Croatian heritage.

Maybe it will also mean your name is John Smith and you are proud of being a Westie.

Maybe Johnno will have bought a West Sydney United jersey, a West Sydney United coffee mug and it didn't bother him at all if it had a little red and white chequer board thing on it.

Johnno might just be glad that there was some wogs around who got the Westies Soccer-Football Club up and winning.

Mikel Ljubic,
Ashgrove, QLD.

What's the beef?

Dear Sir,
The current dispute between Soccer Australia and Marconi, Sydney United and Melbourne Knights is an indication that soccer in this country still has a long way to go.

All Soccer Australia is asking for is the change in the grand total of three colours on the emblems of three clubs. What is the big deal?

The "stink" caused by these three clubs raised the obvious question: what are their respective agendas? Is soccer the focus of these three clubs or is it something else, like the promotion of foreign nationalism?

If soccer is their focus then they will simply change the colours on their emblems, stop spitting the dummy and get on with the game and the 1996-97 season.

If their focus lies elsewhere then they will continue with this obstinance and drive a wedge into the Australian

soccer community. They could even start their own league. Why not call it the REC-Racially Exclusive League. Wouldn't that be a step in the right direction and a great fillip for the code?

These three clubs need to realise that in a competitive 90s sporting market the old guard, viva la homeland mentality that relies on race to draw support really has no place.

I want to see the 1996-97 Ericsson Cup with Marconi, United and the Knights but if the simple change of colour is too great or below them, then so be it, other clubs would love to take their place.

The issue is best summed up by Mr Grabovac (6-8-96) when he suggests that an ethnic club will always be an ethnic club regardless of name, colours or logo. What then is the beef of Marconi, United and the Knights?

Stephen Plummer,
Caloundra, QLD.

Seahawks too narrow

Dear Sir,
It is probable that Soccer Australia will accept the combined Manly Leagues and Warringah Dolphins bid to enter a team in the 97-98 Ericsson Cup competition. I am all for having a side representing Sydney's north shore in the competition.

However in light of Soccer Australia's quest for a higher profile I find it puzzling that they do not find the name Manly Seahawks a little unflattering. Considering the Manly Rugby League Club is called the Sea Eagles it seems to suggest that the soccer team is of second rate importance to the club.

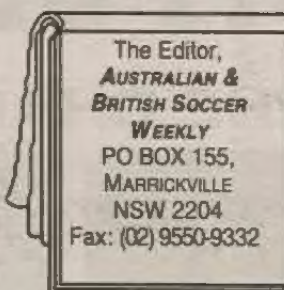
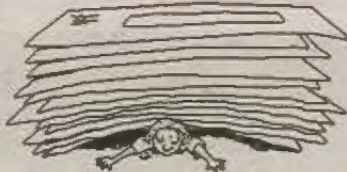
Surely Soccer Australia should ensure that the new club creates an image that is as strong, representative and independent as possible. Soccer Australia is tough when it comes to forcing ethically based clubs into toning down their cultural traditions.

They must be equally tough when dealing with non-ethnic clubs. If Manly are serious about getting involved in Soccer then they should be forced to broaden their appeal beyond the Northern Beaches. Maybe they could call their team the North Shore Sharks.

Mikel Ljubic,
Ashgrove, QLD

Letters to the Editor

Have your say on any soccer issue in the world. Preference will be given to short letters. Include daytime phone number for verification.



Short letters of about 400 words will be given preference in this column.

The opinions expressed on this page do not necessarily reflect those of this newspaper

ROLL ON DAVID HILL!

Dear Sir,
I am writing this letter in disgust that our wonderful game is receiving media attention for all the wrong reasons. Threats of racial discrimination and court action are becoming synonymous with Australian Soccer. What gets my blood boiling even further, teams like Melbourne Knights and Sydney United, at a meeting of all stake holders last October, voted for these changes that included the reduction of the league to 12 teams.

We are now faced with a situation where 3 of the poorest crowd pulling clubs that need most help in attracting new spectators, are putting their own self interests first and the game comes second. I say to these clubs that the game is bigger than any individual or group and the game must come first.

Marconi has been boasting for some time now that they have a membership of 20,000. One has to wonder where all these members are. If you take away the local derby against Sydney Olympic (where a crowd of 10,000 would include only 3,000

Marconi supporters and about 7,000 Olympic supporters), they would struggle to attract a gate of more than 3,000. Most AFL Aussie Rules clubs who have memberships of 20,000 attract gates of 40,000 eg. Essendon, Collingwood, Carlton, West Coast. So Marconi, where are your large gates? Is it Soccer's interest you are looking after or the Marconi Social Clubs?

Melbourne Knights are in a similar position. If you take away the local derby against South Melbourne, they too would be struggling to attract an average gate of more than 3,000. For a club that has been the champions for the last 2 years they cannot attract any new supporters.

Sydney United are just hopeless. Crowds of under 4,000 in last year's finals are just not good enough for the A league. It is an embarrassment to Soccer to watch their games on SBS with empty seats in the stands. It really puts Soccer alongside Sports as minor as Hockey, Lacrosse and Baseball.

If these clubs don't wish to change, then Soccer Australia has every Constitutional right to throw them out. They can

create their own league, call it the World League and they can have names such as Dinamo, Milan, Juventus and even Manchester United if they wish.

In concluding I'd like to say one more thing, look at the experience in the USA, a nation as culturally diverse as Australia. In its first season of Major League Soccer, it has overtaken traditional sports such as Basketball and Hockey as the third most watched sport with crowd averages in excess of 20,000. No single Major League Soccer team is affiliated to any single ethnic group through name or colours. Yet after 20 years of National League, Soccer in Australia still languishes behind such sports as Basketball in terms of aggregate attendances. How pathetic! Roll on David Hill.

And one more thing, if ethnic people supported soccer as much as some people say they do, then clubs like Melbourne Knights, Marconi and South Melbourne would have average attendances of 20,000 to 30,000 and not 3,000.

Harry Sevastopoulos, VIC.

Warren, Reilly for Hill & Negus?

Dear Sir,
I must fully agree with the sentiments expressed by John Warren in the Sydney Morning Herald on the logos issue and other matters regarding Australian soccer. Not only are they almost identical to those views expressed by me in various letters to this paper, but they are, as most of his views usually are, realistic, and hard headed based on his long experience and vast knowledge of the local soccer scene.

Hopefully after this latest fiasco is behind us those two high profile "blow-ins", David Hill and George Negus will depart the scene to be replaced by more suitable and knowledgeable people. I think John Warren and Jack Reilly (from Victoria) would be excellent replacements for Hill and Negus. They at least understand the very complex nature of Australian soccer and they are passionate and genuine supporters and advocates of soccer of longstanding as well as being distinguished players in their days as well.

Ray Gatts article or revealing insight into David Hill's achievements, or lack of, since he assumed his role at Soccer Australia should be compulsory reading for all soccer fans, AUSTRALIAN Newspaper, 20 August 1996.

While I sincerely hope Messrs Hill and Negus will depart to be replaced by Messrs Warren and Reilly, the prospect of this happening are remote never the less it's a nice wish.

R Melor, Bondi, NSW.

Personally discriminating

Dear Sir,
Being a dedicated fan of Australian Soccer I have been emotionally concerned about the proposed and opposed changes for the clubs.

There are a few points that have been raised by the ASF to which I would like to bring my own point view.

The \$200,000 fine imposed on Melbourne Knights for their fans sharing in the celebrations with their heroes after a well deserved victory. Is this a crime?

Why is it that Brisbane Strikers' fans are permitted to charge onto the field after any Strikers' game, either a win or loss? No fines have been issued to them. Whereas in a Grand Final a \$200,000 fine is issued.

Do other codes of sport receive fines for their victories when their beloved fans want to congratulate them?

Whatever happened to the situation at Leichhardt Oval, UTS Olympic v Sydney United when the Olympic fans rampaged onto the field not even at the end of full-time?

My other point of interest and view is the changing of all ethnic symbols. If the ASF hasn't noticed yet, Australia is a multi-cultural country, not everyone is Australian. Therefore what seems to be the problem with different ethnic clubs? No one has ever complained about it in previous years of the game and it hasn't seemed to bother anyone either.

Personally speaking I find this to be very discriminating against my own culture and heritage that clubs have been given as you can say an ultimatum to change their symbols or they're out. Many people have found this to be racist.

I have also heard that there are

too many Sydney clubs and that it is likely that one club will be dropped from the league.

Here I also have a few points I'd like to raise. Speaking now of only Sydney clubs.

Which clubs have improved their facilities?

Which clubs have a club house on the same premises as the playing arena?

To answer these:

1. The major one would have to be Sydney United, a new club, the Boka Stand, the score board, better field with netting behind the goals, all round improved facilities throughout the stadium.

2. Sydney United and Marconi whereas UTS Olympic has to travel to a totally different suburb from their club house - now isn't that appropriate?

Diana Fabac
Fairfield, NSW



Selections questioned

Dear Sir,
I would like to make reference to the selection of the Australian Schoolboys Soccer Team from the recent Schools Carnival held in Victoria.

My son, Jose Bello-Amigo was the No. 1 NSW goalkeeper, and his performances at the carnival were outstanding earning him high praise from all sources in every game in which he participated.

His selection, based on performances in these "selection" games was considered to be a mere matter of course — unless you happened to be a selector.

When the team was read out Jose's name was missing from the list — not only was he not No. 1 keeper, he was not even the second keeper selected. Those selected were boys who attended the Institutes of Sport, and while they are good lads, they were not the best performed keepers at the Carnival.

There may have been other selections which were questionable. However this is the one which affected me and my son. As a NEW Australian, but one who is very proud of his adopted country, I could have had no greater thrill than to see my son play for his country, Australia. I am sure that obviously to Jose himself this would have been the pinnacle of what has to date been a successful career in Soccer.

My point is clearly this: why stage "selection" trials at a Carnival if form at these carnivals is to be ignored. If the side is to be chosen on names or on what Academy a player attends (or what coach he has) then don't hold the Carnivals at all, because in essence you are wasting the time of those players not known to the selectors, or those who are contesting positions which are already filled by pre-conceived selections.

That he didn't make it after such an outstanding tournament is a disappointment in itself. That he was beaten for a position by keepers who did not perform as well in these games but who attend the AIS and therefore are "known" make it a more bitter pill to swallow.

I wish to register my strongest possible complaint.

Jose Bello-Amigo,
Ramsgate, NSW.

Fight has become boring!

Dear Sir,
I am sick to death of hearing about the fight between Mr Hill and Marconi-Fairfield. This constant battle has dominated the soccer sections in the mainstream media over the past few weeks and is becoming quite boring.

How on earth can our great game progress forward in this country when the soccer community is not united as one and are constantly fighting amongst themselves. Soccer in this country has a great opportunity now, with the Rugby League war, to gain new supporters who have been turned off Rugby League.

Soccer Australia must wake up to themselves and market the game properly this season.

They must also sort out their differences with Marconi once and for all.

The Sydney Swans have taken advantage of the League war by marketing their product very well in Sydney and it is showing by the sell-out games they have every week.

Soccer Australia should

take the Swans lead and promote the game this season, more than in previous times.

I am also a fanatical UTS Olympic supporter and can honestly say that my beloved club, has tried to promote our game and broaden our supporter base with the help of UTS.

They are not only relying on the Greek community as they did before.

They held many promotions last season and probably sold the greatest amount of club merchandise of any other Ericsson Cup team.

So let's unite as one and put all the politics behind us and progress our game into the 21st Century.

Let's show everyone in this country why our game is the greatest game of all!

PS. The sleeping giants of Australian soccer, UTS Olympic have awoken and this season will show everyone why we are the best club in Australia!

Angelo Mantsis,
Bardwell Park, NSW

HOLY CROSS MAGIC

BILL TURNER CUP

Holy Cross, Ryde, with two goals of pure magic, knocked out a very galant Cessnock High in the quarter-final of the Commonwealth Bank Bill Turner Cup last Thursday afternoon at Turner Park, Cessnock.

The trend of the game could be seen in the first five minutes as the powerful and skilful half backs created havoc with the Cessnock defenders and Dean Freebain was called on to make some good saves.

In the following 15 minutes John Libro and Daniel Disano scored two brilliant goals for Holy Cross that left the crowd of almost one thousand speechless.

For a time it knocked the attacking skills of the Cessnock forwards out of action.

But to their credit they themselves never gave up with Cessnock's "Three Point Star Player" Jamie McArthur

giving the Ryde goalkeeper Paul Carbone a good workout.

Some top crosses from the left by Anthony Smith just failed to be converted but Marc Crowfoot and Daniel Attewell never stopped trying.

For the winners vice-captain Daniel Disano, captain David Apostolidis and Arthur Diles were outstanding. Vinie Pirina and Fonda Agyrochihis were not far behind.

Excited manager and coach peter Scalia and Irishman Dermott Gill will be making their second visit north for the final series.

CURTAIN DOWN

For Cessnock coach Kel Plumb the curtain rang down on a great sporting career as mentor, coach and friend to thousands of students at Cessnock High.

Kel plans to retire next year and will not be the guiding influence behind another

Cessnock side.

He has coached everything from volleyball to Soccer — Rugby League to Table Tennis with some outstanding results. This icon of Cessnock teachers will be missed.

He was ably assisted this year by Kel Lund.

Mr Greg Bird refereed the match in fine style.

QTR FINALS

Holy Cross College Ryde 2 Cessnock 0; St Josephs Nudgee 2 Windaroo Valley 1; Pat Bros Fairfield 3 Chris Bros Lewisham 0; Koorngal 1 Dubbo 0.

QLD FINAL SERIES

Semi Finals: St Josephs Nudgee 3 Kirwan 1; Windaroo Valley 3 St Josephs Stanthorpe 0.

Playoff for Third: Kirwan 3 St Josephs Stanthorpe 1.

Final: St Josephs Nudgee 2 Windaroo Valley 1.

COMMONWEALTH BANK CUP BOYS

WESTFIELDS 4

(M. SAVIC 2, D. HUSEYIN, J. CULINA)

defeated

KADINA 2

(L. FITTOCK 2)



CONCORD 2/5

(P. BURTON 2)

defeated

ULLADULLA 2/4

(J. TONKIN 2)

COMMONWEALTH BANK CUP GIRLS

WESTFIELDS 4

(H. GARRIOCK 2, A. CAVANAGH)

C. COPELAND)

defeated

ARTHUR PHILLIP 0



RIVERSIDE GIRLS 1

(D. SCISCIA)

defeated

RIVERSTONE 0

Letters to the Editor Overflow...

Agrees with David Hill

Dear Sir,
I find it time to come to the defence of David Hill and Soccer Australia.

I absolutely agree with his policy to smarten up the game. Me, a European immigrant of 30 years, understand why clubs like to stick to their ethnic symbols, but these clubs are being very narrow minded and obviously don't know anything about broad marketing and this is exactly what Australian Soccer needs.

Clubs that the general population can follow regardless of ethnic background or religion.

I am very proud of my ethnic origins, but now I am an Australian and I believe we must progress into Australianisation.

These ethnic divisions which are being caused by certain clubs in the NSL is the marketing thinking of the 1950s.

The quicker these clubs wake up and see what potential and growth they could enjoy with David Hill's policy, the better for Soccer Australia.

Elias Papadopoulos,
Petersham, NSW.

Well done, Mr Hill!

Dear Sir,
Regarding the decision of David Hill to try and get those national sides like Croatia to abandon their ethnic names.

Personally I believe that's a truly wonderful idea well done Mr Hill for having the courage and wisdom to promote such a positive idea. Afterall we all live in Australia don't we?

Why have ethnic names? This is Australia! Damn it there is no room for politics the game is more important than those migrant names like Hellas. What country is that Greece, Croatia or Australia — well?

I'm a national league supporter first but I also support the premier league in Victoria as well and I must say that the standard of Australia Soccer is improving too slowly for my liking.

Countries like Argentina, Brazil and even Denmark for that matter when is Australia going to compete on the field with these nation?

Personally I don't believe

Australia can beat Denmark let alone try and match it with the other two giants of World soccer — what'd you reckon?

Am I too harsh on our country or not?

What about Eddie Thomson? Should he stay on as coach of our national side?

Well to be perfectly honest and give my personal opinion it doesn't matter who the coach is if Australia haven't got the players, they'll never make it to the World Cup.

That's very disappointing indeed for all Australian Soccer fans in general very sad because many truly believe Australia feels sorry for themselves too often when they don't make it in the big league.

Let me explain, you see when our country loses like they did in the Olympics who did they blame, the coach!

Maybe they (players) should bear some of the blame don't you think?

Mario Mifsud,
Preston, Vic.

Dear Sir,
I must agree wholeheartedly with George Dayatzis's letter, its time for new blood in the coaching ranks for Australia.

Thompson, Scheinflug and Raol Blanco should retire and give others a go at coaching.

Far too many tactical blunders were committed by Eddie and his assistants in Atlanta.

But I suppose their contracts will keep them in the job till the 1998 World Cup. Obviously Eddie will get the chop if Australia's Socceroos don't make it with 32 teams in the finals and a much easier passage to get there. But will he be considered a success if the team bombs out in the first round with three losses? I wouldn't think so. Its time to train good Australian coaches to take over from these foreigners.

Frank Farina is a good example for the 2000 Olympics as an assistant coach at least if not head coach.

The reason why I mentioned this was because Eddie Thomson is not interested in a strong domestic competition or improving it, only in personal glory at the International level.

The proof to these allegations is he encourages veterans like Graham Arnold to stay in Europe, so he doesn't lose his skills for the World Cup campaign next year. He would be of immense value in Australia like Frank Farina was with Brisbane Strikers last year.

Kids need heroes to look up to in sport and soccer just doesn't have enough of them, because we export them all with Eddie Thomson's blessings, which is fine in a players early stages of his career, not when he becomes a veteran.

Their experience is needed over here not in England or France or Croatia or wherever.

These foreign coaches hearts are with Scotland, German and Argentina, even if they are Australian citizens.

Like I said its only personal glory of parading on the world stage that they are after first and foremost (and the money too), with the Australian national teams used as vehicles to satisfy their over-inflated egos.

The sooner Aussie coaches take over the better, but unfortunately at the moment they are just not good enough.

Dominic Scullino,
Helensvale, QLD.

NINE TROPHIES ON THE TROT

Dear Sir,
I would like to draw your attention to a story titled "Port Kembla Soccer Club's Sportman's Dinner" which appeared in Vol 17, No. 787 of ABSW. In this story, Port Kembla Resident, Mr Vince Raschila boasts that their club is the "only" club to hold five trophies at the one time (having won '95 League, Grand Final, Bampton Cup, '96 Corrimal Leagues and Charity Shield). To clarify, Port Kembla are the second club in two years to achieve this result.

In 1993, Cringila Lions Soccer Club took out the "treble" (League, Grand Final, Bampton Cup), and in 1994 took out The Corrimal Leagues K.O., Charity Shield in addition they also won the Grand Final, Bampton Cup and Youth Cup. In 1995 they took out the Charity Shield again. Now that is unique nine trophies.

I look forward to reading this clarification in coming issues of ABSW.

Icko Atanasoski
Corrimal, NSW.

TANNER CUP WINNERS

Bankstown's U11 junior league representative team went through undefeated to win the coveted Tanner Cup at Peakhurst Park recently.

In the preliminary rounds, Bankstown beat Illawarra 3-0, Macarthur 2-0 and had a 0-0 draw with Sutherland.

Bankstown demolished highly rated Gladesville Hornsby 4-0 in the first semi-final which earned them a place in the final against old foes Granville.

The final was a gripping affair with both teams putting on a delightful game of skilled soccer.

Bankstown was victorious in scoring the first and only goal of the match.

Bankstown's goals in the competition were scored by Nick Stavroulakis (5), Paul Martinovic (2), Peter Chin (1), Omar Obied (1) and David Bakunowicz who scored one goal which proved to be an important goal to

give Bankstown the Tanner Cup Trophy.

All players gave great account of themselves with Todd Rosenfield's goal-keeping outstanding, while coach Darren Kermond's preparation and direction of the team was first-class.

The Tanner Cup Winners were:

1. Todd Rosenfield
2. David Bakunowicz
3. Nick Stavroulakis
4. Trent McClenahan
5. Mitchell Bru
6. Scott Martin
7. Haysam Habbouchi
8. Kurt Pearson
9. Peter Chin
10. Omar Obied
11. Adam Denina
12. Nicholas Osman
13. John Tsironis
14. Paul Martinovic
15. Grant Wales
16. Patrick Andaloro

Coach: Darren Kermond
Manager: Bob Wales



Tanner Cup Winners: Bankstown

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EUROPE'S CUPS RUNNETH OVER

BY HENRY WIZGIER

The National Football Leagues of Europe have hardly even got under way and already we're well into another European Clubs' campaign.

How do the 3 European Competitions work nowadays?

The changes that are constantly taking place both on and off the field means that the Euro Compo's are not as straightforward as they used to be.

For newcomers to the World Game it must be totally baffling. Even some of the old lags must be getting a bit confused.

Here is a look at the three European Club Competition's, their format's and the clubs which will be playing significant roles in them.

1. THE EUROPEAN CHAMPIONS LEAGUE (Formerly 'The European Cup')

This used to be a straight-forward knock-out tournament for the Champions of every single European National League. The Italian Champions were put into a hat with the Icelandic and Irish League winners etc. and all were paired off in traditional Cup fashion.

Now, only the champions of half of Europe's 49 National Leagues, participate.

Here is how the 24 Champions are selected.

Along with the defending European Champions, the Winners of the seven strongest leagues in Europe (based on club results over the last 5 years), are seeded directly through to the Champions League.

This season's seeds are:
JUVENTUS (Holders — Italy)

MILAN (Champions of Italy)
AUXERRE (France)
ATLETICO MADRID (Spain)
BORUSSIA DORTMUND (Germany)
AJAX (Holland)
PORTO (Portugal)
MANCHESTER UNITED (England)

You can confidently put your favourite-club's replica shirt on one of these winning the 'Biggie' come Merry Month of May.

These eight will now be joined by the winners of eight Qualifying Round matches which were made up of the Champions of the next 16 strongest leagues in Europe.

This FINAL 16 — will form the 'Champions League' which will actually be made into four Mini-Leagues of four teams each, played on a usual League format.

The top two finishers in each league (8 teams, in case you haven't got a calculator handy) will go on to a straight-forward knock-out Quarter Finals, like the old European Cup used to be.

The two finalists will meet in the Champions League Final at a neutral venue next May.

2. THE UEFA CUP

In the beginning, this was called the Inter-Cities Fairs Cup and was played for by Cities which held Trade Fairs! (What are they? Never mind!) That's why the first losing finalists in 1958 were a team called 'LONDON'.

Eventually, it became the Compo for the 'Next-Bests' in other words the Runners-Up of all the Euro Leagues.

However, the stronger European Leagues are also allowed to enter their 3rd, 4th and even 5th League finishers, depending on their strength, based on results over the past

five years etc.

Nowadays, this is also where the Champions of Europe's weaker-half are 'dumped'. To make matters even more confusing — 3 extra places are allocated to the best teams from the (northern) summer Intertoto Competition. This is basically open to all-comers but only the weaker and more desperate clubs whose players can't afford a holiday, bother to take part in it.

For the 999th time let's remind you again that Bordeaux started here last year and made it all the way to the Final itself!

To make matters a little bit more confusing still, another three places are allocated to countries for something called 'Fair Play' or — 'not-getting caught' would probably be more accurate. This seasons 'goody-goody two shoes' have been Russia, Sweden and Finland. Bravo! They each get an extra team in the UEFA Cup.

You can just imagine a Jones or Batty saying to himself 'I had better not up — end this chap for it might jeopardise my country's chance of gaining an extra team in the UEFA Cup.'

The strange figure of 109 teams make up the numbers, but through a process of eliminations which make Einstein's theory of relativity read like 'Little Red Riding Hood' by comparison, we now arrive at the magic figure of 64 from whence a knock-out competition can carry on un-interrupted all the way to two finalists.

Got it?

Only the three top countries are allowed four teams each. This season they are: Italy — (LAZIO, ROMA, PARMA, INTER-MILAN)

Germany — (BAYERN MUNICH, SCHALKE, BORUSSIA MG, HAMBURG)

France — (MONACO, METZ, LENS, MONTPELLIER)

All of these clubs must come into the reckoning but the winner in May could also come from England (NEWCASTLE, ARSENAL, ASTON VILLA), Spain (VALENCIA, ESPANYOL, TENERIFE), Portugal (BOAVISTA, SPORTING LISBON, VITORIA GUIMARAES) or Holland (RODA, FEYENOORD)

3. EUROPEAN CUP — WINNERS CUP

This is the simplest one of all to understand and the only one to retain it's original format.

The reigning European Cup Winners Cup holders, Paris St Germaine plus 14 Domestic-Cup winners from the strongest league are seeded as 'Direct Qualifiers'.

The seeded teams are:
PARIS ST GERMAINE (Holders — France)

FIORENTINA (Cup Winners of Italy)

NIMES (France)

BARCELONA (Spain)

KAISERSLAUTERN (Germany)

PSV EINDHOVEN (Holland)

BENFICA (Portugal)

LIVERPOOL (England)

CERCLE BRUGES (Belgium)

AEK ATHENS (Greece)

LOKOMOTIVE MOSCOW (Russia)

GALATASARAY (Turkey)

AARHUS (Denmark)

STURM GRAZ (Austria)

AIK STOCKHOLM (Sweden)

This leaves 34 National Cup Winners

who were paired off into 17 matches which have just taken place.

These matches produced 17 winners who

will now join the 15 Direct Qualifiers, making it 32 teams and away we go, straight-forward Knock-out, until there are two left who will play in the Cup Winners Cup final at a neutral venue next Merry Month of May.

Only one Australian footballer, Craig Johnston with Liverpool, has ever won a European Winners medal, but we have four players to watch out for in two Competitions.

Ned Zelic will be helping Auxerre to try and win their, first European and only the second Champions Cup for France. (Marseille in 93 are the only success so far).

Paul Okon's mighty Lazio have a pathetic record in Europe and have never even made it to a Final in any of the three Competitions. This season, they'll be having another crack at the UEFA Cup.

In the same Competition, Aurelio Vidmar will be in a similar situation with Spain's Tenerife, a club with no pedigree, full stop. However, you don't finish above Real Madrid in the league, with a bunch of monkeys.

Mark Bosnich is one of two Aussies with clubs which have any Euro pedigree, although Aston Villa's sudden Championship triumph in 1982 was preceded by and has since been followed by absolutely nothing.

Craig Moor plays for what must be one of Europe's most schizophrenic clubs, Rangers.

Sharks in Scotland — small fish in Europe. However they do have the capacity to even better their Cup Winners Cup win of a quarter century ago.

EUROPEAN COMPETITIONS DRAWS

Champions' League:

September 11

Group A - Auxerre v Ajax Amsterdam
Grasshopper Zurich v Glasgow Rangers
Group B - Atletico Madrid v Steaua Bucharest
Borussia Dortmund v Widzew Lodz
Group C - Rapid Vienna v Fenerbahce
Juventus v Manchester United
Group D - Gothenburg v Rosenberg
AC Milan v Porto

September 25

Group A - Rangers v Auxerre, Ajax v Grasshopper
Group B - Widzew Lodz v Atletico, Steaua v Dortmund
Group C - Manchester United v Rapid, Fenerbahce v Juventus
Group D - Porto v Gothenburg, Rosenberg v AC Milan

October 16

Group A - Ajax v Rangers, Auxerre v Grasshopper
Group B - Steaua v Widzew Lodz, Atletico v Dortmund
Group C - Fenerbahce v Manchester United, Rapid v Juventus
Group D - Rosenberg v Porto, Gothenburg v AC Milan

October 30

Group A - Rangers v Ajax, Grasshopper v Auxerre
Group B - Widzew Lodz v Steaua, Dortmund v Atletico
Group C - Manchester United v Fenerbahce, Juventus v Rapid
Group D - Porto v Rosenberg, AC Milan v Gothenburg

November 20

Group A - Ajax v Auxerre, Rangers v Grasshopper
Group B - Steaua v Atletico, Widzew Lodz v Dortmund
Group C - Fenerbahce v Rapid, Manchester United v Juventus
Group D - Rosenberg v Gothenburg, Porto v AC Milan

December 4

Group A - Auxerre v Rangers, Grasshopper v Ajax
Group B - Atletico v Widzew Lodz, Dortmund v Steaua
Group C - Rapid v Manchester United, Juventus v Fenerbahce
Group D - Gothenburg v Porto, AC Milan v Rosenberg

Cup Winners' Cup

Nimes (France) v Kispest Honved (Hungary)
Sturm Graz (Austria) v Sparta Prague (Czech Republic)
Constructorul Chisinau (Moldova) v Galatasaray (Turkey)
Kaiserslautern (Germany) v Red Star Belgrade (Yugoslavia)
MyPa-47 Anjalankoski (Finland) v Liverpool (England)
Sion (Switzerland) v Niva Vinnitza (Ukraine)
Aarhus AGF (Denmark) v Olimpija Ljubljana (Slovenia)
Cercle Brugge (Belgium) v Brann Bergen (Norway)
Lokomotiv Moscow (Russia) v Varteks (Croatia)
Reykjavik (Iceland) v Solna (Sweden)
Barcelona (Spain) v AEK Larnaca (Cyprus)
Benfica (Portugal) v Ruch Chorzow (Poland)
AEK Athens (Greece) v Chemlon Humenne (Slovakia)
Gloria Bistrita (Romania) v Fiorentina (Italy)
Dynamo Batumi (Georgia) v PSV Eindhoven (Netherlands)
Vaduz (Liechtenstein) v Paris St Germain (France)
First leg September 12, second leg September 26

Ferencvaros (Hungary) v Olympiakos (Greece)
Newcastle United (England) v Halmstad (Sweden)
Aberdeen (Scotland) v Barry Town (Wales)
Hutnik Krakow (Poland) v Monaco (France)
Roma (Italy) v Dynamo Moscow (Russia)
Celtic (Scotland) v Hamburg (Germany)
Tenerife (Spain) v Maccabi Tel Aviv (Israel)
Panathinaikos (Greece) v Legia Warsaw (Poland)
Arsenal (England) v Borussia Moenchengladbach (Germany)
Chernomorets Odessa (Ukraine) v National Bucharest (Romania)
Torpedo Moscow (Russia) v Dynamo Tbilisi (Georgia)
Bodo-Glimt (Norway) v Trabzonspor (Turkey)
Club Brugge (Belgium) v Lyngby (Denmark)
Rapid Bucharest (Romania) v Karlsruhe (Germany)
Aston Villa (England) v Helsingborgs (Sweden)
Lens (France) v Lazio (Italy)
Spartak Moscow (Russia) v Silkeborg (Denmark)
Malmo (Sweden) v Slavia Prague (Czech Republic)
Ekeren (Belgium) v Casino Graz (Austria)
Montpellier (France) v Sporting Lisbon (Portugal)
Valencia (Spain) v Bayern Munich (Germany)
Dynamo Kiev (Ukraine) v Neuchatel Xamax (Switzerland)
Molenbeek (Belgium) v Besiktas (Turkey)
Guimaraes (Portugal) v Parma (Italy)
Alania Vladikavkaz (Russia) v Anderlecht (Belgium)
Schalke 04 (Germany) v Roda JC (Netherlands)
Tirol Innsbruck (Austria) v Metz (France)
First leg September 10, second leg September 24.

UEFA Cup

Brondby (Denmark) v Aarau (Switzerland)
CSKA Moscow (Russia) v Feyenoord Rotterdam (Netherlands)
Apoel Nicosia (Cyprus) v Espanyol (Spain)
Guingamp (France) v Internazionale (Italy)
Odense (Denmark) v Boavista (Portugal)





QUEENSLAND

XXXX League



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COMMITMENT BRINGS CITY REWARD

BY GLENN DAVIS

Brisbane City picked themselves up off the mat to earn a Grand Final showdown with arch rivals Brisbane Lions next week with a well deserved 2-1 win over Rochedale Rovers in the Fourx League preliminary final at Perry Park on Sunday.

City finally rewarded Coach, Peter Tokesi with a spirited performance after a second round slump which saw the former National League Club lose the premiership after surrendering an 11 point lead midway through the season.

Tokesi has been at a loss to explain his side's below par performances recently, but may have stumbled upon the answer by accident against Rochedale.

"We were a lot more committed today than we have been for a long time," Tokesi said.

"We were first to the ball for the first time in weeks."

Despite a superior start, Brisbane City found themselves a goal down on 12 minutes after a controversial goal allowed by referee Derek Crawford.



Crawford.

Rochedale were awarded a direct free kick just outside the box and before City goalkeeper Daniel Duke had time to set a wall, Rochedale's quick thinking striker Andy Lees drove home the place kick even before his own team mates were ready.

City protested loud and

long, suggesting the free kick should have been retaken but nothing was going to change Crawford's decision.

Despite the setback, City took control of the game as Rochedale appeared lost marking up in midfield with City swapping their flankers Seeley and Cameron Pearse around.

Tokesi explained later he had switched the lanky Seeley to the right flank and gave him a roving commission as he feared the speed of Rochedale's Craig Collins.

"We started off trying to unsettle Rochedale in the midfield and I was worried about Collins' speed up against Nicky," Tokesi said.

"I put Cammy Pearse on Collins and it worked and moved Nick to the right."

Tokesi's decision may have had the intention of stopping Collins, but in reality it caused Rochedale midfield problems as they appeared in two minds about who to mark.

Brisbane City eventually got back to level terms midway through the first half after a clever switch of play from midfielder John Schiavo who found Mark Geminelli unmarked on the



left flank.

Geminelli, who started the game in place of injured Wayne Strange, floated a cross into the box for Seeley to head home in a challenge with Rochedale's keeper Clint Del Santo.

Seeley, who caused havoc whenever he touched the ball, almost got his name on the scoresheet for a second time in 61st when Del Santo

tipped a curling free kick from Seeley over the cross bar.

The deadlock was broken only a minute later when Pearse, one of the smallest players on the field, drove home a header off a Damien Waugh freekick.

Rochedale Coach, Kim Wishart, who replaced ace Striker, Kieran Cooper at the 76th minute mark, accepted defeat graciously, but is uncertain whether he'll be seeking the coaching position again next season after the club advertised nationally for a coach last week.

"They adapted their tactics well looking for their tall men and we made two errors which proved very costly in the end," Wishart said.

"Our side on paper should have come up with more silverware than we did. All we got was a President's Cup trophy this year."



Frank Farina: Juggling responsibilities as new season nears.



Jeff Lombardo: Defender for Brisbane Lions opposing City in Grand Final.



Frank Farina & Ian Brusasco: Have big task in guiding Strikers in next season.



Warren Allen: Lions striker aiming to deny City in the big one.

QUEENSLAND XXXX LEAGUE

PRELIMINARY FINALS

Brisbane City 2 Rochedale 1

GRAND FINAL NEXT SUNDAY

Brisbane Lions v Brisbane City

XXXX LEAGUE PRELIMINARY FINALS XXXX RESERVES

24 August 1996
Brisbane City 0 Coalstars 1

XXXX YOUTH

24 August 1996
Rochedale Rov 1 Wynnum Dist 3

DIVISION 2

25 August 1996
St Albans 1 Mt Gravatt 2

RESERVES

25 August 1996
Rocklea United 3 Mt Gravatt 0

DIVISION 2 YOUTH

25 August 1996 -
St Albans 0 Albany Creek 5

DIVISION 3

24 August 1996
Slacks Creek 1 Newmarket 2

RESERVES

24 August 1996
Slacks Creek 0 Redlands United 1

DIVISION 4

25 August 1996
Moggill United 1 Bayside United 0

RESERVES

24 August 1996
Bayside United 2 Redcliffe City 3

DIVISION 5

24 August 1996
Capalaba 1 Jimboomba 3

DIVISION 6

24 August 1996
Park Ridge 6 Mitchelton 1

DIVISION 7

24 August 1996 -
Kingsridge 1 Uni of Qld 4

DIVISION 8

24 August 1996
Rocklea United 4 Samford 0

GRAND FINAL RESULTS

DIVISION 9A

24 August 1996
Tarlinga Rov 3 Brisbane Lions 0

24 August 1996
Coalstars 3 Capalaba 2

Northern New South Wales

WOLVES TRIUMPHANT

BY DANE SKAFTE

Highfields Wolves celebrated an outstanding season with a hard fought 3-2 win over minor premiers Weston Bears last Sunday in the NBN first division Grand Final.

A last minute penalty kick by Highfields captain Wayne Bailey in extra time gave his side a well-deserved win in front of over three thousand people at the Breakers Stadium.

Thirty one year old Bailey who has been side-lined for the past two months with a torn ligament in his leg came on for the final thirty minutes of extra time and immediately brought some fire into the team which caused havoc for the Bears defence.

The Bears played the final minutes of normal time with only ten men after striker Dean Howard was sent from



Wayne Bailey: Scored winning goal to take Wolves to Grand Final victory.

the field by referee Robbie Davis for his second bookable offence.

Highfields opened the scoring in the fifth minute after a bad defensive error by Westons Steve Geddes who

flicked a ball into his own goals with keeper Peter Oberhauser well off his line.

Weston equalised five minutes later when Ian Tressider swooped onto a loose ball and gave keeper

Shanko little chance.

Highfields moved into quick action in the second half when Ty Turner picked up a loose ball and buried it into the net. Weston made their first change in the sixty second minute when Justin Kavanagh was only on the field for ten minutes when he was replaced, this was Kavanagh's first run for eight weeks after coming back from a broken arm injury.

Highfields continued to fire shots at Westons goal but only poor finishing by Bret Macaulay and Mick Williams denied the Wolves.

Weston lost Dean Howard in the eighty seventh minute when he was sent off by referee Davis two minutes later the Bears equalised after a player was brought down in the area and Anthony Richards made no mistake with the rebound after his first attempt was blocked by keeper Shanko.



Howard Tredinnick: Kept the side together in extra time.

The game went into thirty minutes of extra time with both sides starting to feel the pinch and tempers flaring. Referee Davis issued seven yellow cards and one red during the match.

Highfields dominated the second half of extra time missing at least six clear-cut chances.

Highfields coach Steve Bland was overwhelmed with his teams great win "I think

our lads were great today we matched it physically with Weston and we created more chances at the end of the day," he said.

Bland agreed that his team played well as a unit and deserved to win. Bears coach Keith Harris agreed with the comments that Bland made regarding his team. "It wasn't our day today our side worked very hard but at the end of the game they (Highfields) deserved to win."

"I gave Justin Kavanagh a run for ten minutes but he didn't look comfortable so I didn't want to risk his hand," Harris said.

Harris praised all of his players "especially Jamie Wile and Steve Geddes and Ian Tressider, they never stopped running" he said.

In the earlier grand finals reserved grade the Wallsend Red Devils beat Weston Bears 4-2 on penalties and the under 19's Wallsend beat West Wallsend 4-1 on penalties.

Newcastle Briefs . . .

BY DANE SKAFTE

The Newcastle Breakers have three of its young guns in the Coca Cola Socceros training squad which was announced last week.

Clayton Zane, Peter Ritchie and Glenn Moore have been named in a 33 man under 20 squad which are currently at the Australian Institute of Sport in Canberra for a week's training.

The youngsters will be trying to show their ability to National Youth Coach, Les Scheinflug who will reduce the squad before the teams travel to South America in October.

The squad's ultimate goal will be the World Youth Cup to be played in Malaysia in May 1997.

*The Northern NSW Soccer Federation held their Annual Awards Dinner Night last week at the Belmont 16 Foot Sailing Club.

Hamilton Warriors Striker, Benn Lane picked up the prestigious NBN Soccer Player of the Year, after beating two other nominees, Ian Tressider from the Weston Bears and Danny Burt from the Deloraine Eagles who were both outstanding for the clubs all season. The 22 year old striker picked up a cheque for \$500.00 for his effort all season. The award came as a surprise for Lane as he never expected to win it.

"I was happy just to be nominated by the club. It is always good to be recognised after the hard work you put in all year," Lane said.

"Hamilton has had a good year under (Greg) Smithy."

"We finished seventh last year and third this season," he said.

Lane's career has been highlighted after he won the NSW State Youth Player of the Year in his first year for Adamstown Rosebuds in 1993.

Lane also represented the Northern NSW at the National Titles and played with the



Shane Locke: Took out the IEA 'Rookie of the Year' Award.

Newcastle Breakers in 1992.

Weston Bears Coach, Keith Harris was named Tooheys Coach of the Year after winning the Minor Premiership and going through the season undefeated.

Broadmeadow Magic's defender, Shane Locke took out the IEA Rookie of the Year Award for his major role in lifting the clubs position for the second half of the season.

The 17 year old, who turns 18 next Saturday, had been out for the majority of the season after having a groin operation at the beginning of the year.

"It was a good work out with Broadmeadow because I only played the second half of the competition to keep my fitness up," he said.

"When I was nominated I didn't think I had any chance."

"But I am pretty happy after winning the award," Locke said.

Wallsend Red Devils Secretary, Nina Thomas was named Crosbie and Warren Sinclair, Administrator of the Year.



Benn Lane: NBN Soccer Player of the Year.

ILLAWARRA PREMIER LEAGUE

BY PHIL MURPHY

Lysaghts Coach, Casey de Bruin has taken on the high-profile job of Head Coach at the NSW Institute of Sport.

He signed a contract four days after guiding Lysaghts to the ISA Premier League Championship. De-Bruin and his players celebrated in style after finishing second to Port Kembla last season. After beating Bulli 4-0 to clinch the title, they overpowered Fernhill by the same score at home on Sunday.

After that game, De Bruin praised his players for their professionalism.

"We won the championship with 10 points to spare and three games to play," the Coach said.

"Today, my players proved they have a lot of character by playing one of their best games of the season."

"In that situation, teams tend to relax but that certainly wasn't the case today."

Midfielder, Noel Spencer won the Man of the Match Award, scoring two goals and being denied a hat trick by the woodwork late in the second half.

John Danzo and Shane Williams also scored goals.

Fernhill Coach, Peter Willis said after the game Lysaghts were simply too good.

"We had to go at them because a draw wouldn't have been much good to us," Willis said.

"Now we have to win our last two games to have a chance of finishing in the top four". De Bruin will remain involved with Lysaghts as Director of Coaching and the club will appoint a First Team Coach during the off-season.

Wollongong Olympic's top four hopes took a battering when they lost 1-0 away to Coniston. It was Olympic's third successive loss and their playoff hopes are now in jeopardy.

Striker, John Simonovski grabbed Coniston's winner with 15 minutes to go and Olympic players protested that he had handled the ball.

However, Referee, Mario Mastroianni ruled the ball came into contact with Simonovski's chest.

In contrast to Olympic, Bulli took a giant step towards the finals with a 5-0 demolition job on Westderra at Unanderra Oval.

Fullback, Rob Berni set the scene after 16 minutes with a well-taken goal then John Brown, Rod Patterson, Steve Forshaw and Luke Metcalfe also found the net.

The good news for Coach, John Frew was having Brown back on deck for half a game. Brown has missed most of the season with an ankle injury but is certain to make an impact on the semi-finals if the team qualifies.

Port Kembla, holding onto second spot as other teams falter, thrashed Northern United 5-0 at Memorial Park.

Justyn Roberts made it four goals in two outings when he grabbed two against Northern with Jon Angelucci, Paul Beltrame and Bill Kampas also scoring goals.

Cringila have come from nowhere to join the top four race after beating Dapto 2-1 away from home on Saturday.

It was a vital game for both clubs and Cringila used five under 19 players because regulars were missing because of work and injuries.

Rade Stefanovski and Robbie Saverino scored the goals which sank Dapto.

With nothing at stake, West-Figtree and Balgownie played a 1-1 draw at Graham Park.

Don Martinovski put Figtree ahead but Balgownie salvaged a point with a fine effort from John Demasi.

POINTS TABLE: Lysaghts 50, Port Kembla 40, Bulli 32, Wollongong Olympic 31, Fernhill 29, Cringila 28, Dapto 27, Coniston 26, Balgownie 25, Figtree 22, Northern United 17, Westderra 12.

SATURDAY'S DRAW: Balgownie v Coniston, Cringila v Figtree, Bulli v Dapto, Fernhill v Westderra, Port Kembla v Lysaghts and Wollongong Olympic v Northern United.



SUPER LEAGUE	1st	U/21
GRAND FINAL		
Adamstown Rosebud v P'matta Eagles	1-1	
	3-5 penalty shootout	
Leichhardt Tigers v P'matta Eagles	1-3	

DIVISION ONE	1st	U/21	U/18
ROUND 26			
Hills United v Stanmore Hawks	1-1	10-0	4-0
Southern Minotaurs v Penrith	2-0	0-2	3-1
West Wanderers v Auburn United	4-0	4-6	7-0
Sydney Cosmos v Ryde City	0-0	3-1	0-1
Bathurst '75 v Mt Pritchard	1-1	1-2	2-0
Mt Druitt Town Rangers v Fairfield	0-1	1-2	N/A
Dulwich Hill v Belmore Hercules	2-5	1-2	0-6

DIVISION TWO	1st	U/21	U/18
FINAL SERIES			
MAJOR SEMI FINAL			
Greystanes v Sydney District	3-2		
	extra-time		
Greystanes v Concord Juniors	2-0		
AC United v Prairiewood United			0-3
MINOR SEMI FINAL			
Hurstville v Alexandria Warriors	0-2		
Parramatta City v Liverpool City		3-2	
Greystanes v Parramatta City			0-3

DIVISION THREE	1st	2nd
PRELIMINARY FINAL		
Glebe Wanderers v Gladeville United	2-0	
Moorebank Sports v Gladesville United		3-1

DIVISION FOUR	1st	2nd
PRELIMINARY FINAL		
Springwood v Fraser Park	1-3	
Springwood v Fraser Park		2-0

DIVISION FIVE	1st	2nd
GRAND FINAL		
Maroubra United v Mascot Kings	0-4	
Nepean District v Maroubra United		3-2

DIVISION SIX	1st	2nd
GRAND FINAL		
Racing v Blacktown Premier	4-1	
UWS Macarthur v Blacktown Premier		0-1

WOMEN'S STATE LEAGUE	1st
DIVISION ONE — GRAND FINAL	
Northern NSW ITC v Marconi	0-0
	3-2 penalty shootout
	2nd
Sydney Cosmos v UWS Macarthur	3-0

WOMEN'S STATE LEAGUE	1st
PRELIMINARY FINAL — DIVISION TWO	
Moorebank 1 v St George Association	2-1
	extra time

Waratah Cup Changes

Due to ground maintenance which has been unavoidably delayed, three matches in Round 6 of the Waratah Cup have been shifted to alternative venues.

Hills United versus Sutherland Sharks and Sydney Cosmos against Wollongong City are at Balls Paddock, Bulli.

The ground at Bulli is in superb condition with a full-time curator. There is a well appointed grandstand and first class player facilities.

Lisle Carr Oval, Whitebridge hosts the game between Highfields Wolves and Newcastle Breakers.

All three games take place on Sunday September 1.

First Division WRAP UP

With their solid 0-0 draw against Ryde City Gunners at St George Stadium on Saturday, front runners Sydney Cosmos clinched the First Division premiership with a week and at least three points to spare.

Ryde who are running second with one match to play, were their only possible threat and a draw was quite sufficient to see the strong leading side home.

Peter Gunnin, in the Cosmos goal, was rarely threatened, while Andrew Prentice at the other end was called upon to make just two telling saves.

It was a game of quality passing and good lead up work, but with defences well in control of the eighteen yard area.

Richard Miranda was splendid for Ryde in central defence, while playmaker George Kalogeras was always in the thick of the action for the home side.

Cosmos Coach, Joe Watson, basking in the post match glory, reflected on his third experience of First Division titles, one as a player and two as a coach.

He was at pains to point out that his was not a team of stars, but a quality group of players who played as a team and with tremendous unity and team spirit.

The loss of Latvian Midfielder, Vadim Mikoutsky, early departure of both Tony Dakos and Jim Patikas was compensated by the application of young prospects like Ben Blake and Paul Richardson as well as the ever reliable Rudi Jerkovic.

Only late in the season could he call upon the vast experience of Grant Lee and the promise of Paul Dee.

Tom McCulloch has been a leader throughout the season and along with Russian attacking full back Gary

Spivac, swansong utility man Gerry Gomez and strikers Louis Dounis and Darren Ioacca has helped form a formidable unit which has taken the division by storm.

Only beaten three times this year, at home to Mount Pritchard and Hills United and at St George Stadium to Southern Minotaurs the team winds up its programme proper with a home game scheduled for St George Stadium again, tomorrow, Wednesday night 28th.

Minotaurs would like a win to finish well clear of the lower reaches of the ladder, while Cosmos would love to win for their supporters after a rather barren spell towards the end which has seen the side virtually limp over the line.

The First Division season concludes this week, with a full round of make-up games.

There is a second game on Wednesday at Fred Caterson Reserve featuring the top five prospects Hills United and mercurial West Wanderers.

Wests handed out a pasting to top five hopefuls Auburn at Chopin Park, getting the 4-0 win courtesy of a brace of goals from 18 year old prospect Trent Worrall at the start of each half and the rest from Anthony Caruso and Jim Boudaher.

Hills were unable to hang on to a 45th minute lead given them by John Faulkner which Stanmore cancelled out in the 83rd minute through their very able striker Eddie Briscoe.

Friday night at St George Stadium Bathurst '75 are in town to play Stanmore Hawks and need at least a point to secure a top five placing.

Bathurst were fortunate to get a draw against Mount Pritchard, despite dominating territorially and only drawing level from an Adam Collins free kick in the 88th after Derek Poimer had scored a very clever goal for the

visitors in the 65th.

Saturday at TG Millner Field second plays third when Ryde City takes on Belmore Hercules.

Auburn are at Mona Park on Sunday where they play Dulwich Hill who are staring the wooden spoon in the face after going down 5-2 to Belmore at Arlington Oval on the weekend.

Belmore struck form with a vengeance, top scorer Jim Melissourgos grabbing a hat-trick to take his season's tally to 23.

Meanwhile, Mount Pritchard have to get a win to guarantee their own safety when they play Fairfield Bulls who beat them twelve days back and have now escaped the ignominy of last place.

Mount Druitt are the worst placed of the three relegation threatened sides, having a very poor goal difference which would be impossible to overcome.

Their salvation would be a win over Penrith at Penrith Park or, should the other pair only draw, then a draw themselves.

Mount Druitt held Penrith to a draw recently and were just beaten 1-0 by Fairfield at the weekend in a tense contest.

Fairfield's young speed merchant Matthew Borg was the man who did the damage and this time Mount Druitt will need to watch for the likes of Scott McArdle and Mark Moffett who are right on song.

The Finals series begins the following week.

The reason that Bathurst are in town on Friday is that they have a Waratah Cup match on the Sunday.

Similarly both Sydney Cosmos and Hills United are engaged in the Federation's 'FA Cup style' knock-out competition and have had to bring their potentially lucrative home games forward

DIVISION ONE FIRST GRADE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Sydney Cosmos	25	14	8	3	49	18	50
Belmore Hercules	25	12	9	4	61	33	45
Ryde City	25	12	9	4	46	20	45
Bathurst '75	25	11	9	5	30	26	42
Hills United	25	11	7	7	44	32	40
Auburn United	25	11	6	8	59	63	39
Penrith Panthers	25	9	6	10	47	48	33
West Wanderers	25	9	5	11	42	49	32
Sthn Minotaurs	25	8	6	11	34	45	30
Stanmore Hawks	25	7	7	11	36	40	28
Fairfield Bulls	25	7	5	13	39	45	26
Mt Pritchard	25	5	8	12	29	43	23
Dulwich Hill	25	6	4	15	27	52	22
Mt Druitt Town	25	5	7	13	29	67	22



WARATAH CUP

ROUND 6

SATURDAY AUGUST 31

Weston Creek v Marconi-Fairfield
Greenway Oval, Tuggerong, 3pm

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 1

Warringah Dolphins v Canterbury
Marriekville

Melita Stadium, 1pm

Parramatta Eagles v Bathurst '75
Melita Stadium, 3pm

Sydney United v Canberra Cosmos
Croatian Sports Centre, 3pm

Hills United v Sutherland Sharks
Balls Paddock, Bulli, 1pm

Wollongong City v Sydney Cosmos
Balls Paddock, Bulli, 3pm

Highfields Wolves v Newcastle Breakers
Lisle Carr Oval, Whitebridge, 3pm

UTS Olympic v Rockdale City
St George Stadium, 3pm

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Second Division FINALS SERIES BEGINS

Greystanes booked their passage into the final at Ernie Smith Reserve in a fortnight with a thrilling 3-2 win, in extra time, over Sydney Districts at the Serbian Centre on Saturday.

Down 2-0 after only twelve minutes to the side which had already beaten them twice this season, Premiers Greystanes, winners of Third Division last term fought back aided by the fact that Districts had the scorer of one of their goals sent off before half time.

Quick goals by Charlie Morales and Joe Serratore set the 'Spanish Club' up for a repeat performance, but when Serratore was shown a red card for the alleged use of an elbow, Greystanes was able to drag their way back to level 2-2 before half-time.

Mark Racker and Chris Sciberras were on target for

the community-based club, but there was no addition to the score as the game moved into the last four minutes of extra time and the 10 men appeared to have done enough to have earned a penalty shoot-out.

They had almost wrapped up the win in regulation time, but 'Stanes' keeper David Apps saved twice, brilliantly from George Johnson before a third shot was cleared off the line.

Australian schoolboys star Racker struck the decisive blow for Greystanes as the clock ticked down and Districts must now take on the winners of the elimination final this weekend.

The winners of that game were Alexandria who defeated Hurstville 2-0 at Lynwood Park.

Alexandria had just scraped into fourth place after two stirring wins, including

one over then second placed Hurstville and retained that form to march on into the next sudden death phase.

Without the competition top scorer, Con Anagnostopoulos, Alexandria took a while to get in front and had to withstand a stoppage time rally from Hurstville before getting a clinching second goal.

Arthur Stamoulis opened the scoring with a close range header in the 55th minute after Achilles Markopoulos had missed the target from the penalty spot in the first half.

Bolianitis got the late goal which sealed it in brilliant fashion.

Alexandria are confident of beating Sydney Districts a side which, like Greystanes, they have not beaten during the competition, but who they believe they can better this time.

Masami Ihara
(Yokohama Marinos
and Japan)

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How will You Manage?...

The Weekly Telegraph, which has always led the way with its football coverage, is offering you the opportunity to select and manage your own Fantasy Football team, based on each player's real performance on the field. So if you think you'd make a better Premier League manager than Gary Bailey or Terry Paine, now's the time to prove it!

To start your own Fantasy Football team, pick your players from the list of goalkeepers, defenders, midfielders and strikers below.

When your completed entry form reaches us, we will register your team as a member of The Weekly Telegraph Fantasy Football and send you a manager's pack containing your manager's PIN number, team sheet, score card, transfer cards and instructions.

Please allow four to six weeks after you submit your entry form for delivery of your manager's pack... so the earlier you enter, the earlier you can start tracking your team's performance as follows:

Each week (from 9 September this year until the end of the season in May 1997) Fantasy Football players will be allocated points based on their real performance in live action FA Carling Premiership matches.

Their points will refer to games played each week, running from Monday to Sunday. Only matches played from 9 September onwards count towards The Weekly Telegraph Fantasy Football.

Players' weekly scores and a league table showing the top managers will be published each week from 25 September in The Weekly Telegraph. From these results, write down your individual player's scores on your score card, then add them all up for your team's weekly points total.

Each month the 'Manager of the Month' will win the coveted prize of a team strip from the Premier League club of their choice!

Then at the end of the season the manager whose team has scored the most points overall will win the fabulous prize of two hospitality tickets to the 1997 Charity Shield Opener at Wembley. The Weekly Telegraph will provide accommodation plus fly you to London and back!

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SELECT YOUR TEAM FROM THE PREMIER LEAGUE PLAYERS BELOW

I.D.	Player	Club	Value	I.D.	Player	Club	Value	I.D.	Player	Club	Value	I.D.	Player	Club	Value	I.D.	Player	Club	Value	I.D.	Player	Club	Value	I.D.	Player	Club	Value	I.D.	Player	Club	Value																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																						
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102	D Seaman	ARS	3.1	217	M Hal	COV	2.1	330	L Radebe	LEE	2.3	444	P Simpson	DER	2.4	501	Emerson	MID	3.4	598	R Rosenthal	TOT	2.2	629	M Bridges	SUN	2.3	103	R Houl	DER	2.0	218	S Minto	CHE	2.3	331	S Campbell	TOT	2.9	445	P Trollope	DER	2.9	502	R Mustoe	MID	2.0	599	M Oakes	SDT	1.8	630	C Russell	SUN	3.6	104	M Taylor	DER	1.9	219	J O'Connor	EVE	2.0	332	P Besley	LEE	2.2	446	W Boland	COV	1.8	503	T...	504	S Robson	MID	1.8	598	R Farley	WIM	2.9	631	N Whelan	COV	4.2	105	K Hitchcock	CHE	2.3	220	M Jackson	EVE	2.4	333	M Wright	LIV	3.4	447	J Elliott	EVE	2.3	504	S Robson	MID	1.8	599	M Farley	WIM	2.9	632	P Jeph	EVE	4.5	106	D Beasant	SDT	2.0	221	C Powell	DER	2.2	334	S...	448	P N...	COV	2.9	505	A Moore	MID	2.1	563	N Ardley	WIM	9	633	F Hadjiro	WIM	9.3	107	222	C...	335	W...	449	C Darby	DER	2.4	506	C...	564	C...	634	D...	108	223	J...	336	S...	450	S...	507	S...	565	J...	635	S...	109	N...	224	J...	337	C...	451	J...	508	C...	566	J...	636	S...	110	K...	225	G...	338	G...	452	N...	509	S...	567	C...	637	M...	111	226	G...	339	G...	453	S...	510	J...	568	M...	638	M...	112	227	T...	340	J...	454	G...	511	S...	569	S...	639	C...	113	228	A...	341	S...	455	E...	512	S...	570	S...	640	D...	114	229	R...	342	K...	456	J...	513	S...	571	G...	641	A...	115	M...	230	R...	343	S...	457	D...	514	C...	572	M...	642	P...	116	P...	231	D...	344	P...	458	J...	515	S...	573	S...	643	P...	117	A...	232	S...	345	P...	459	L...	516	S...	574	S...	644	P...	118	M...	233	K...	346	C...	460	D...	517	S...	575	M...	645	D...	119	S...	234	P...	347	J...	461	P...	518	S...	576	P...	646	S...	120	M...	235	G...	348	M...	462	K...	519	W...	577	C...	647	C...	121	M...	236	S...	349	M...	463	G...	520	S...	578	S...	648	A...	122	M...	237	S...	350	C...	464	G...	521	S...	579	S...	649	S...	123	L...	238	M...	351	A...	465	G...	522	P...	580	J...	650	C...	124	M...	239	C...	352	P...	466	L...	523	A...	581	S...	651	S...	125	240	N...	353	S...	467	R...	524	S...	582	C...	652	S...	126	M...	241	M...	354	P...	468	S...	525	M...	583	E...	653	J...	127	T...	242	N...	355	A...	469	A...	526	M...	584	S...	654	R...	128	W...	243	N...	356	S...	470	M...	527	S...	585	A...	655	A...	129	M...	244	C...	357	S...	471	W...	528	S...	586	S...	656	S...	130	M...	245	M...	358	A...	472	T...	529	L...	587	M...	657	S...	131	M...	246	M...	359	S...	473	B...	530	L...	588	I...	658	F...	132	M...	247	G...	360	S...	474	M...	531	S...	589	S...	659	D...	133	L...	248	L...	361	S...	475	C...	532	S...	590	S...	660	A...	134	249	P...	362	P...	476	P...	533	M...	591	S...	661	C...	135	250	P...	363	G...	477	A...	534	G...	592	S...	662	T...	136	251	C...	364	R...	478	J...	535	G...	593	S...	663	A...	137	252	W...	365	S...	479	S...	536	P...	594	S...	664	S...	138	M...	253	W...	366	S...	480	N...	537	M...	595	S...	665	C...	139	M...	254	C...	367	S...	481	D...	538	M...	596	P...	666	T...	140	J...	255	J...	368	M...	482	J...	539	M...	597	S...	667	A...	141	J...	256	M...	369	C...	483	R...	540	G...	598	S...	668	S...	142	257	M...	370	A...	484	R...	541	C...	599	G...	669	F...	143	J...	258	M...	371	M...	485	R...	542	M...	600	S...	670	A...	144	259	J...	372	S...	486	S...	543	M...	601	S...	671	M...	145	260	A...	373	S...	487	K...	544	S...	602	P...	672	A...	146	261	P...	374	S...	488	K...	545	S...	603	S...	673	G...	147	262	S...	375	D...	489	P...	546	M...	604	S...	674	S...	148	263	L...	376	A...	490	S...	547	H...	605	S...	675	S...	149	264	S...	377	S...	491	V...	548	C...	606	P...	676	S...	150	265	M...	378	D...	492	A...	549	S...	607	S...	677	S...	151	266	A...	379	S...	493	S...	550	S...	608	S...	678	S...	152	267	M...	380	R...	494	P...	551	S...	609	S...	679	S...	153	268	A...	381	S...	495	P...	552	B...	610	S...	680	S...	154	269	M...	382	C...	496	L...	553	S...	611	S...	681	S...	155	270	J...	383	S...	497	G...	554	S...	612	S...	682	S...	156	271	G...	384	S...	498	D...	555	D...	613	S...	683	S...	157	272	T...	385	S...	499	P...	556	S...	614	S...	684	S...	158	273	S...	386	S...	500	S...	557	S...	615	S...	685	S...	159	274	W...	387	S...	501	S...	558	S...	616	S...	686	P...	160	275	J...	388	S...	502	S...	559	S...	617	S...	687	S...	161	276	P...	389	S...	503	S...	560	S...	618	S...	688	S...	162	277	C...	390	S...	504	S...	561	S...	619	S...	689	S...	163	278	S...	391	S...	505	S...	562	S...	620	S...	690	S...	164	279	J...	392	S...	506	S...	563	S...	621	S...	691	S...	165	280	M...	393	S...	507	S...	564	S...	622	S...	692	S...	166	281	M...	394	S...	508	S...	565	S...	623	S...	693	S...	167	282	A...	395	S...	509	S...	566	S...	624	M...	694	S...	168	283	L...	396	S...	510	S...	567	S...	625	S...	695	S...	169	284	S...	397	S...	511	S...	568	S...	626	P...	696	S...	170	285	M...	398	D...	512	S...	569	S...	627	D...	697	S...	171	286	A...	399	S...	513	S...	570	S...	628	S...	698	S...	172	287	M...	400	R...	514	S...	571	S...	629	S...	699	S...	173	288	A...	401	S...	515	S...	572	S...	630	S...	700	S...	174	289	J...	402	K...	516	S...	573	S

WORLD RESULTS & TABLES

England Football League Cup First round, first leg

Brentford	1 Plymouth	0
Cardiff	1 Northampton	0
Carlisle	1 Chester	0
Colchester	2 West Bromwich	3
Darlington	1 Rotherham	0
Doncaster	1 York	1
Exeter	0 Barnet	4
Hartlepool	2 Lincoln	2
Hereford	3 Cambridge	0
Huddersfield	3 Wrexham	0
Hull	2 Scarborough	2
Ipswich	2 Bournemouth	1
Luton	3 Bristol Rovers	0
Mansfield	0 Burnley	3
Notts County	1 Bury	1
Oldham	0 Grimsby	1
Oxford	1 Norwich	1
Port Vale	1 Crewe	0
Portsmouth	2 Leyton Orient	0
Reading	1 Wycombe	1
Rochdale	2 Barnsley	1
Scunthorpe	2 Blackpool	1
Sheffield United	3 Bradford	0
Southend	0 Fulham	2
Stockport	2 Chesterfield	1
Swansea	0 Gillingham	1
Swindon	2 Wolverhampton	0
Torquay	3 Bristol City	3
Walsall	1 Watford	0
Wigan	2 Preston	3

English Premier League

Aston Villa 1 (Southgate 64) Blackburn 0.
 Chelsea 1 (Di Matteo 86) Middlesbrough 0.
 Leicester 2 (Heskey 6, 42) Southampton 1 (Le Tissier penalty 68).
 Manchester United 2 (Cruyff 70, Unsworth own goal 82) Everton 2 (Ferguson 35, 41).
 Newcastle 2 (Batty, Shearer 88) Wimbledon 0.
 Nottingham Forest 1 (Haaland 27) Sunderland 4 (Gray 8, Quinn 17, 31, Ord 43).
 Tottenham 1 (Sheringham 34) Derby 1 (Daily 90).
 West Ham 1 (Rieper 74) Coventry (McAllister 12).
 Leeds 0 Sheffield Wednesday 2 (Humphreys 14, Booth 89).
 Manchester United 2 (Cruyff 39m, Solskjaer 70) Blackburn 2 (Warhurst 34, Bohinen 51).
Division 1: Bolton 1 Manchester City 0

EUROPEAN CUP QUALIFYING ROUND 2ND LEG

Dynamo Kiev (Ukraine) 2 Rapid Vienna (Austria) 4
 Dynamo - Yuri Kalitvintsev (6th), Yuri Maximov (77th)
 Rapid - Trifon Ivanov (23rd, 42nd), Dihmar Kibauer (32nd), Alexander Khatskevich (62nd, own goal)
 Rapid won 6-2 on aggregate
 Alania Vladikavkaz (Russia) 2 Glasgow Rangers (Scotland) 7 (2-3)
 Rangers - Ally McCoist (1st, 14th, 19th minutes), Peter Van Vossen (40th), Brian Laudrup (55th, 83rd), Charlie Miller (87th)
 Alania - Igor Yanovski (15th), Nazim Suleimanov (penalty 24th)
 Rangers won 10-3 on aggregate In Istanbul:
 Fenerbahce (Turkey) 1 Maccabi Tel Aviv (Israel) 1 (1-0)
 Fenerbahce - Augustine Okacha (18th)
 Maccabi - Drics (75th)
 Fenerbahce won 2-1 on aggregate
 Steaua Bucharest (Romania) 3 Club Brugge (Belgium) 0 (2-0)
 Steaua won 5-2 on aggregate
 Slavia Prague (Czech Republic) 0 Grasshopper Zurich (Switzerland) 1 (0-0)
 Grasshopper won 6-0 on aggregate
 Rosenborg (Norway) 3 Panathinaikos (Greece) 0 (0-0)
 Rosenborg won 3-1 on aggregate
 Ferencvaros (Hungary) 1 IFK Gothenburg (Sweden) 1 (1-0)
 Ferencvaros - Ferenc Horvath (15th)
 IFK Gothenburg - Andreas Andersson (87th)
 Gothenburg won 4-1 on aggregate
 Brondby (Denmark) 3 Widzew Lodz (Poland) 2

(2-0)
 Brondby - Peter Moeller (32nd), Ole Bjur (44th), Kim Vilfort (48th)
 Lodz - Marek Citko (56th), Pawel Wojtala (89th)
 Aggregate score 4-4. Widzew Lodz qualify on away goals rule.

HOLLAND FIRST DIVISION

— August 21 —

Volendam	1 G Doetinchem	1
Groningen	0 Willem II Tilburg	0
AZ Alkmaar	0 Vitesse Arnhem	2
Utrecht	2 RKC Waalwijk	2
Sparta Rotterdam	0 Fortuna Sittard	0
Heerenveen	1 Twente Enschede	3
Ajax Amsterdam	1 MAC Breda	0
Roda JC Kerkrade	1 F Rotterdam	1

GERMAN BUNDESLIGA

— August 21 —

Borussia Dortmund	4 F Duesseldorf	0
Bayern Munich	1 Bochum	1
Duisburg	1 Bayer Leverkusen	3
Cologne	1 1860 Munich	0
Arminia Bielefeld	1 St Pauli	2
Schalke	0 B M'gladbach	0
Hamburg	5 Freiburg	1
Werder Bremen	1 Hansa Rostock	1

NORWAY ELITE DIVISION

— August 18 —

Lillestrom	1 Bodo/Glimt	2
Kongsvinger	1 Molde	0
Stromsgodset	3 Tromso	2
Skied	3 Stabaek	1
Moss	2 Brann	1
Rosenborg	2 Viking	1

TABLE

Rosenborg	19	13	4	2	61	19	43
Lillestrom	18	9	5	4	36	22	32
Skied	18	10	2	6	29	27	32
Molde	18	8	3	7	35	23	27
Stabaek	19	6	8	5	37	34	26
Tromso	19	7	5	7	32	32	26
Brann	18	7	5	6	33	36	26
Viking	19	6	7	6	32	24	25
Stromsgodset	19	7	4	8	27	36	25
Kongsvinger	19	7	4	8	25	36	25
Bodo/Glimt	19	6	4	9	31	40	22
Valerenga	18	4	6	8	19	30	18
Moss	19	4	6	9	23	39	18
Start	18	3	3	12	23	45	12

ENGLISH PREMIER LEAGUE

Aston Villa	2 Derby	0
Chelsea	2 Coventry	0
Leicester	0 Arsenal	2
Liverpool	0 Sunderland	0
Newcastle	1 Sheffield Wed	2
Nottingham Forest	1 Middlesbrough	1
Tottenham	0 Everton	0
West Ham	2 Southampton	1
Manchester United	2 Blackburn	2

Playing Monday:

Leeds v Wimbledon

ENGLISH DIVISION ONE

Bolton	3 Norwich	1
Charlton	1 West Bromwich	1
Crystal Palace	3 Oldham	1
Ipswich	5 Reading	2
Oxford	5 Southend	0
Sheffield United	4 Birmingham	4
Stoke	2 Manchester City	1
Swindon	1 Port Vale	1
Wolverhampton	1 Bradford	0
Portsmouth	1 QPR	2
Tranmere	3 Grimsby	2
Barnsley	3 Huddersfield	1

ENGLISH DIVISION TWO

Brentford	3 Luton	2
Bristol City	0 Blackpool	1
Burnley	2 Walsall	1
Chesterfield	1 Bury	2
Peterborough	2 Crewe	2
Preston	0 Bristol Rovers	0
Rotherham	1 Shrewsbury	2
Stockport	0 Notts County	0
Watford	0 Millwall	2
Wrexham	4 Plymouth	4
Wycombe	1 Gillingham	1
York	1 Bournemouth	2

ENGLISH DIVISION THREE

Barnet	1 Wigan	1
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Cardiff	1 Brighton	0
Carlisle	0 Hull	0
Chester	1 Cambridge	1
Darlington	4 Swansea	1
Exeter	2 Scarborough	2
Hartlepool	2 Fulham	1
Hereford	1 Doncaster	0
Lincoln	1 Leyton Orient	1
Northampton	3 Mansfield	0
Rochdale	0 Colchester	0
Scunthorpe	1 Torquay	0

SCOTTISH PREMIER DIVISION

Hibernian	0 Dunfermline	0
Kilmarnock	1 Celtic	3
Raith	0 Motherwell	3
Rangers	1 Dundee United	0
Aberdeen	4 Hearts	0

SCOTTISH DIVISION ONE

Airdrieonians	0 East Fife	0
Clydebank	1 Stirling	0
Dundee	2 Greenock Morton	1
Falkirk	1 Partick	0
St Mirren	0 St Johnstone	3

SCOTTISH DIVISION TWO

Berwick	0 Stenhousemuir	6
Brechin	1 Ayr	1
Hamilton	2 Clyde	0
Queen of the South	2 Dumbarton	1
Stranraer	1 Livingston	2

SCOTTISH DIVISION THREE

Alloa	1 Arbroath	1
Cowdenbeath	1 Monstrose	0
Forfar	3 Inverness	1
Ross County	1 Queen's Park	2
East Stirling	0 Albion	1

ENGLISH PREMIER LEAGUE

Sheffield Wednesday	3	3	0	0	6	2	9
Chelsea	3	2	1	0	3	0	7
Arsenal	3	2	0	1	4	2	6
Aston Villa	3	2	0	1	4	2	6
Manchester United	3	1	2	0	7	4	5
Sunderland	3	1	2	0	4	1	5
Liverpool	3	1	2	0	5	3	5
Everton	3	1	2	0	4	2	5
Tottenham	3	1	2	0	3	1	5
Nottingham Forest	3	1	1	1	5	5	4
West Ham	3	1	1	1	3	4	4
Leicester	3	1	1	1	2	3	4
Newcastle	3	1	0	2	3	4	3
Middlesbrough	3	0	2	1	4	5	2
Derby	3	0	2	1	4	6	2
Leeds	2	0	1	1	3	5	1
Southampton	3	0	1	2	2	4	1
Blackburn	3	0	1	2	2	5	1
Coventry	3	0	1	2	1	6	1
Wimbledon	2	0	0	2	0	5	0

ENGLISH DIVISION ONE

Bolton	3	2	1	0	5	2	7
Barnsley	2	2	0	0	5	2	6
Wolverhampton	2	2	0	0	4	1	6
QPR	2	2	0	0	4	2	6
Stoke	2	2	0	0	4	2	6
Birmingham	2	1	1	0	5	4	4
Tranmere	2	1	1	0	4	3	4
Oxford	2	1	0	1	6	2	3
Ipswich	2	1	0	1	5	3	3
Bradford	2	1	0	1	3	2	3
Crystal Palace	2	1	0	1	3	2	3
Huddersfield	2	1	0	1	3	3	3
Norwich	2	1	0	1	3	3	3
Reading	2	1	0	1	3	5	3
Manchester City	3	1	0	2	2	3	3
Port Vale	2	0	2	0	2	2	2
Sheffield United	2	0	1	1	4	5	1
West Bromwich	2	0	1	1	2	3	1
Charlton	2	0	1	1	1	3	1
Swindon	2	0	1	1	1	3	1
Southend	2	0	1	1	1	6	1
Grimsby	2	0	0	2	3	6	0
Oldham	2	0	0	2	2	5	0
Portsmouth	2	0	0	2	2	5	0

ENGLISH DIVISION TWO

Burnley	2	2	0	0	4	2	6
Plymouth	2	1	1	0	6	5	4
Brentford	2	1	1	0	4	3	4
Gillingham	2	1	1	0	4	3	4
Millwall	2	1	1	0	3	1	4
Bury	2	1	1	0	3	2	4

Crewe	2	1	1	0	3	2	4
Shrewsbury	2	1	1	0	3	2	4
Notts County	2	1	1	0	2	1	4
Bristol Rovers	2	1	1	0	1	0	4
Bournemouth	2	1	0	1	3	3	3
Chesterfield	2	1	0	1	2	2	3
Watford	2	1	0	1	2	3	3
Blackpool	2	1	0	1	1	1	3
Wrexham	2	0	2	0	5	5	2
Wycombe	2	0	2	0	2	2	2
Peterborough	2	0	1	1	2	3	1
Rotherham	2	0	1	1	2	3	1
Walsall	2	0	1	1	2	3	1
Preston	2	0	1	1	1	2	1
Stockport	2	0	1	1	0	1	1
Luton	2	0	0	2	3	5	0
Bristol City	2	0	0	2	2	4	0
York	2	0	0	2	2	4	0

ENGLISH DIVISION THREE

Hartlepool	2	2	0	0	4	1	6
Scunthorpe	2	2	0	0	2	0	6
Exeter	2	1	1	0	3	2	4
Hull	2	1	1	0	3	2	4
Wigan	2	1	1	0	3	2	4
Cambridge	2	1	1	0	2	1	4
Cardiff	2	1	1	0	1	0	4
Carlisle	2	1	1	0	1	0	4
Darlington	2	1	0	1	6	4	3
Northampton	2	1	0	1	4	2	3
Swansea	2	1	0	1	3	5	3
Brighton	2	1	0	1	2	2	3
Fulham	2	1	0	1	2	2	3
Torquay	2	1	0	1	2	2	3
Hereford	2	1	0	1	1	1	3
Scarborough	2	0	2	0	2	2	2
Chester	2	0	1	1	2	3	1
Lincoln	2	0	1	1	2	3	1
Barnet	2	0	1	1	1	2	1
Leyton Orient	2	0	1	1	1	2	1
Rochdale	2	0	1	1	1	2	1
Colchester	2	0	1	1	0	2	1
Doncaster	2	0	0	2	0	2	0
Mansfield	2	0	0	2	0	4	0

SCOTTISH PREMIER DIVISION

Rangers	3	3	0	0	7	2	9
Celtic	3	2	1	0	9	4	7
Aberdeen	3	1	2	0	8	4	5
Motherwell	3	1	2	0	6	3	5
Hibernian	3	1	1	1	2	2	4
Hearts	2	1	0	1	3	6	3
Kilmarnock	3	1	0	2	5	7	3
Dundee Utd	3	0	1	2	1	3	1
Dunfermline	2	0	1	1	2	5	1
Raith	3	0	0	3	1	8	0

WORLD STORIES

BIG SCORES IN EURO CUP

Ally McCoist scored three times in the first 18 minutes as Glasgow Rangers scored a spectacular 7-2 away victory over Russian champion Alania Vladikavkas last week to power into the lucrative last 16 of the European Champions Cup on a 10-3 aggregate.

Rapid Vienna, Cup Winners Cup runner-up last season, also made it to the round-robin group stage of Europe's more prestigious soccer competition by gaining an away 4-2 victory at Dynamo Kiev to win 6-2 overall.

Steaua Bucharest, Champions Cup holder in 1986, overpowered Belgium's FC Bruges 3-0, to advance 5-2 on aggregate, and Switzerland's Grasshoppers won 1-0 at Slavia Prague to go through 6-0.

Widzew Lodz of Poland went down 3-2 at Denmark's Broendby for a 4-4 aggregate but advanced because it had scored more goals away from home.

Sweden's IFK Goteborg gained a 1-1 draw at Hungary's Ferencvaros to go

through 4-1, and Norway's Rosenborg downed last season's semi-finalist, Panathinaikos of Greece, 3-0 to advance 3-1.

Turkey's Fenerbahce drew 1-1 with Maccabi Tel Aviv to go through 2-1.

Success in the preliminary round means these winners went into Friday's draw facing at least six big-money games against teams of the calibre of Italian soccer giants Juventus and AC Milan, Dutch powerhouse Ajax and England's Manchester United.

These four were among the eight teams seeded to automatically reach the last 16.

Winner 3-1 at its Ibrox Park stadium two weeks ago, Rangers needed only 33 seconds to increase its lead through McCoist.

The veteran striker, who scored Scotland's only goal in the European Championship in June, made it 2-0 in the 12th minute.

And, after Russian international midfielder Igor Yanovski replied for Alania,

McCoist took it to 3-1 in the 18th.

A penalty by Nazim Suleimanov made it 3-2 before Dutch forward Peter van Vossen gave the Scots a 4-2 halftime lead.

Even without suspended England star Paul Gascoigne, Rangers proved too strong for the Russian champion before some 35,000 fans, and added second half goals with Danish star Brian Laudrup netting twice and substitute Charlie Miller adding another.

Before 80,000 fans in Kiev, Rapid's Bulgarian international Trifon Ivanov grabbed two first half goals as the Austrians hit back from 1-0 down to triumph.

Adrian Ilie also scored twice in the opening half in Steaua's victory over Bruges in Bucharest.

Pawel Wojtala's goal a minute from the end for Widzew Lodz put the Polish team into the last 16 despite its 3-2 loss at Broendby.

Until that goal, Widzew was 4-3 down on aggregate and his strike made it 4-4 to put his team through because it had scored more away goals.

Algeria turned down by Pretoria

Pretoria City has pulled out of an African Cup Winners' Cup soccer quarter-final in Algeria next month because of safety fears.

The South African side was due to play CR Belouizdad in a first leg match on September 6 but said today concern over the security situation in the north

African country forced them to withdraw.

They now faces a fine from the Confederation of African Football, which has declared travel to Algeria safe.

City is the first club in two years to refuse to go to Algeria, which has hosted several African club competition matches this year without incident.

RIOT IN DHAKA OVER GAME

Riot police burst tear gas and clubbed frenzied soccer fans who rampaged through Dhaka, Bangladesh after the referee ended a match early. A spectator was crushed to death and 100 others were injured.

The fans were outraged when the referee decided to end a soccer division league match 12 minutes early last night.

The mob torched a motorcycle, damaged 100 vehicles and ransacked shops in and around the stadium.

Two major teams — Mohammadan Sporting Club and Brothers Union — were playing a lacklustre match in Dhaka when spectators

hurled bricks into the field. Police retaliated with teargas. A spectator, who had fallen down, was trampled to death by the crowd trying to get out of the stadium.

"We were terribly disappointed to watch an arranged game," said Ruhul Amin, suggesting the teams had secretly agreed on a draw.

A young woman was hospitalised with serious head injuries, police said. Others received minor injuries.

Soccer is a national passion in Bangladesh and rival fans often settle scores with knives, machetes and homemade guns.

GERMAN CHAMPIONS BOUNCE BACK

Bundesliga champion Borussia Dortmund bounced back from opening-day defeat to thrash Fortuna Duesseldorf 4-0 last week.

Skipper Michael Zorc set Dortmund on the way to a comfortable win with a goal in the 35th minute. He finally got the better of Georg Koch after the Duesseldorf goalkeeper had denied him three times early in the half.

Swiss international Stephane Chapuisat added the second six minutes later.

Substitute Karl Heinz Riedle scored twice in the second half, his second set up by new arrival Paulo Sousa.

Bayer Leverkusen, which beat Dortmund 4-2 on Saturday, carried on in a

similar vein against Duisburg, a hat-trick by Ulf Kirsten providing a 3-1 win.

Kirsten struck in the 65th, 71st and 82nd minutes after Markus Marin had put Duisburg ahead with a penalty in the 54th minute.

Bayern Munich fared less well, drawing 1-1 with Bochum at home to be booed by fans and criticised by club president Franz Beckenbauer.

"The players thought this would be easy. They thought they could win by playing at half strength," said Beckenbauer. "But 50 percent is too little against this opposition."

Ruggiero Rizzitelli put Bayern ahead in the 52nd minute. Peter Peschel equalised after 73 minutes.

HAMBURG THUMP FREIBURG

Hamburg went up two goals inside the first 12 minutes, Karsten Baeron opening the scoring in the 4th minute, and Danish defender Jakob Friis-Hansen notching the second against Freiburg.

Harald Spoor added two more in the first half, a converted penalty in the 26th, and a goal in the 33rd.

Dutch striker Harry Decheivers got one for Freiburg in the 56th, his third goal in two games this season, before Lithuanian forward Valdas Ivanauskas completed the rout with Hamburg's fifth in the 80th minute.

*** Schalke and Moenchengladbach disappointed 38,000 fans in

Gelsenkirchen by failing to score.

*** Nigerian international Jonathan Akpoborie scored in the 40th to give Rostock a 1-0 half-time lead at Werder Bremen.

Bremen was fortunate to level in the 70th, when a free kick by Andreas Herzog was deflected into his own net by Rostock's Andre Hofschneider.

*** In Bielefeld, St Pauli spoiled the home debut of newly-promoted Arminia, winning 2-1 on goals by Jens Scharping (45) and Bernd Eigner (57).

Stefan Studrucker notched one in the 86th before 18,000 Bielefeld fans.

PSV down Ajax

PSV Eindhoven stamped itself as a serious Dutch title contender with a 3-0 victory over league champion Ajax Amsterdam in the pre-season Supercup on August 18.

Belgium's Marc Degryse netted two goals and Rene Eykelkamp the other in PSV's first victory at Ajax since September 1992.

The Supercup is played between last season's Dutch league champion and the Dutch Cup winner.

PSV started brightly with Wim Jonk hitting the post in the 14th minute and a minute later Luc Nilis sent the ball just over the bar.

Ajax was also deprived by the woodwork with Jari Litmanen's 30th minute shot beat keeper Ronald Wattereus.

Two minutes after the break Eykelkamp opened the scoring for the Dutch Cup winner when he a hammered home a cross by Philip Cocu.

Degryse, a close-season signing from England's Sheffield Wednesday, made sure of the victory with goals in the 55th and 76th minutes.

The Dutch league opens on Tuesday when Roda JC Kerkrade clashes with Feyenoord Rotterdam.

MUSAMPA MAKES AJAX HISTORY

Kiki Musampa went down in history as the first man to score for Ajax in the team's new stadium last week.

Ajax, playing in the new, 51,000-seater Amsterdam Arena, started the league season well with a 1-0 win over NAC Breda, thanks to Musampa's goal in the 82nd minute, from a pass from Nordin Wooter.

The Amsterdam side had played two friendlies in the new stadium before the season opened but lost 3-0

both times, to AC Milan and PSV Eindhoven.

Pre-season injuries had depleted Ajax, with strikers Jari Litmanen and Marc Overmars and defenders Marcio Santos and Winston Bogarde unable to play.

Striker Patrick Kluijert was back after injury but he lacked match fitness and missed several chances.

In the final minute NAC came close to equalising but a Graham Arnold header just missed the Ajax goal.

Croatian Corner

By John Viskovich

As the new Croatian A League is set to kick off here is the complete list of players who have come and gone.

H.K. CROATIA ZAGREB

IN: Marin Galic (Maribor Branik, Slovenia), Juric (Bavem, Belgium), Coach Otto Baric (Casino Salzburg, Austria).

OUT: Soldo (VFB Stuttgart Germany), Mamc (Bochum, Germany), M. Cvitanovic (H. Dragovoljac), Katic (H. Dragovoljac), Bekavac (Sibenik), Ancic (Inker), Poldrugac, Butina, Sokota (all Samobor), Nakic (Istra), Coach Kranjcar (Linz Kelli, Austria).

SEGESTA SISAK

IN: Sablic (Junak)
OUT: None.

OSIJEK

IN: Mitu (Uta, Arad Romania), Dronca (UTA Arad, Romania), Nekret-Katic (Inker), Bulat (Sibenik), Zilic (Sibenik), Bogdan (Cibalia), Mestrovic (Cibalia), Steinbrückner (Marsonia), Stanic (Belisce) Grnja (Cepin), Zekic (Olipija, Osijek).

OUT: Bicanic (Duisburg, Germany), Karabeg (Sibenik), Simunec (Nurnberg, Germany), Osmanagic (Furth, Germany), Pamic (Sochaux, France), Labak (Stuttgart Kickers, Germany), Vida (Belisce), Vukoja (H. Dragovoljac), Bajsic (Cibalia), Kulesevic (H. Dragovoljac), Coach Katalinic (Haifa, Israel).

ISTRA

IN: Nakic (Croatia Zagreb)
OUT: Popovic (Spittal, ?), Piutti (France), Kljajic (Italy), Lokvancic

(Bosnic), Bradvic (Orient).

VARTEKS VARAZDIN

IN: Solomun (Samobor), Cubretovic (Hajduk), Maretic (Solin-Kaltenberg).

OUT: Dalic (Hajduk), Balajic (Sporting Lisbon, Portugal), Mrmic (Besiktas, Turkey), Kovac (Hapoel, Israel), Vugrinec (Nantes, France), Bantic (Rijeka), Car (Buducnost), Toth & Jukic (Slaven Belupo, ?).

F.C. ZAGREB

IN: Jurcec (Hajduk), Lalic (Mladost 127), Baturina (Sibenik), Duro, Sibenik, Osihov (Inker), Juric (H. Dragovoljac), Colceag (South America), Zebic (Primorac).

OUT: Rosso (Hapoel Beersheva, Israel), Zupetic (Hapoel, Haifa, Israel), Pavlovic (Linz Kelli, Austria), Popovic (Linz Kelli, Austria), Konjic (FC Zürich, Switzerland), Alic (Slavonija).

HAJDUK SPLIT

IN: Dalic (Varteks), Sedlovski (Pobeda prilep, Macedonia), Nuhui (Sloga Jugomont, Skopje Macedonia), Bilic (China), Filipovic (Neretva), V. Lalic (Neretva), Madzar (Val), Rosandic (FC Split).

OUT: Pralija (Espanol, Spain), Hibic (Seville, Spain), Asanovic (Derby County, England), Mestrovic (Alavez, ?), Mornar (Torino, Italy, Seville, Spain), Jurcec (FC Zagreb), Rapac (Perugia, Italy), Cubretovic (Varteks), Filipovic (Sibenik), Cavlina (H. Dragovoljac).

RIJEKA

IN: Bantic (Varteks), Viteskic (Dubrovnik), Galic (Dubrovnik), Zoric (Marsonia).

OUT: Skocic (Spain), Smoje (Fiorentina, Italy), Belle Belle (Japan), Mladenec (Orient), Volaric (Orijent), Grubisic (Orijent), Tomljenovic (Zadarkomerc).

HVRATSKI DRAGOVOLJAC

(Croatian Volunteer)

IN: Vukoja (Osijek), Kulesevic (Osijek), Cvitanovic (Croatia ZG), Antolic (Marsonia), Zivkovic — Pranjic — Matijasevic (all Marsonia), Vranjkovic (Posusje), Simunic (Vrapce), Katic (Croatia ZG), Susec (Gosk Gabela), Tolic (Dakovo), Jazic (Toronto, Canada), Milos (Germany), Cavlina (Hajduk).

OUT: Juric (Zagreb), Lipovac (Inker), Jakovljevic (Mladost 127), Zivkovic (Slavonija).

ZADARKOMERC

IN: "Grabovac" (Cibalia), Klac (Cibalia), Tomljenovic (Rijeka), Veraja (Dubrovnik), Videka (Hajduk, Pridraga), Lazanija (Rastani), Pincic (Rastani).

OUT: Bogdan (Sibenik), Pavic Sibenik, Ancic (Inker), Mrcela (Cibalia).

SIBENIK

IN: Karabeg (Osijek), Filipovic (Hajduk), Cvijanovic (Cibalia), Zela (Neretva), Alilovic, Basic, Jakirevic, Pavic, (all Neretva), Matulic (Solin-Kaltenberg), Bogdan (Zadarkomerc), Bekavac (Croatia ZG), Coach (Solin-Kaltenberg).

OUT: Bulat (Osijek), Zilic (Osijek), Baturina (Zagreb), Duro (Zagreb), Vukovic (Samobor), Ackar (China), Putnik (Chaves, ?)
(to be concluded)



Victorian Ladders



STATE LEAGUE DIVISION 1

FIRSTS

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Sp. White Eagles	22	15	3	4	47	22	48
Preston Lions	22	12	7	3	34	15	43
Richmond	22	11	9	2	43	28	42
West Suburbs	23	11	5	7	29	22	38
Lalor Utd	23	10	5	8	55	40	35
Kings City	22	8	11	3	29	23	35
Moorabbin City	22	9	6	7	32	26	33
C'Don City Dons	23	8	7	8	41	29	31
Westgate	23	8	6	9	38	42	30
Werribee City	23	8	4	11	32	27	28
Don'ster Rovers	23	6	9	8	29	33	27
North City	21	4	6	11	18	34	18
Broadmeadows	22	5	2	15	22	57	17
Glen Eira City	23	1	2	20	12	63	5

RESERVES

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Preston	18	14	1	3	48	20	43
Werribee City	22	13	4	5	45	35	43
Richmond	19	13	3	3	40	21	42
Moorabbin City	21	11	7	3	51	23	40
Don'ster Rovers	23	12	3	8	46	32	39
Croydon City	21	11	2	8	45	33	35
Kings City	22	10	3	10	50	37	33
Lalor United	22	10	1	11	52	39	31
Sp. White Eagles	20	8	1	11	47	44	25
Glen Eira City	23	7	3	13	33	59	24
North City	19	6	2	11	18	52	20
Westgate	21	6	0	15	24	54	18
West Suburbs	19	5	2	12	33	49	17
Broadmeadows	19	2	2	15	18	52	8

STATE LEAGUE DIVISION 2

FIRSTS

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Westvale	23	20	1	2	85	23	58
Sth Dandenong	23	18	4	5	53	29	46
Altona East	23	13	5	5	46	30	44
Altona City	22	10	4	8	37	22	34
Waverley City	23	9	6	8	50	48	33
Ess Brun Royals	23	8	7	8	23	25	31
Frankston Pines	23	7	8	8	31	35	29
East Richmond	22	7	6	9	37	32	27
Knox City	23	6	9	8	32	43	27
Regent Bulla	23	6	10	8	26	38	25
Bell Park	22	6	5	11	27	34	23
Oakland	22	4	8	10	21	49	20
Nunawading City	23	3	8	12	24	61	17
Mooroolbark	21	4	3	14	27	50	15

RESERVES

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Frankston Pines	21	15	3	3	50	19	48
Waverley City	22	14	1	7	66	35	43
Altona City	21	13	2	6	52	30	41
Westvale	23	13	5	5	50	37	41
Ess Brun Royals	23	12	4	7	55	25	40
Knox City	23	8	6	9	49	41	30
Oakland	22	9	2	11	59	45	29
East Richmond	22	7	8	7	36	33	29
Altona East	22	8	5	9	40	43	29
Mooroolbark	19	7	7	5	34	34	28
Regent Bulla	22	8	10	4	44	72	24
Nunawading City	22	5	3	14	43	55	18
Sth Dandenong	22	5	3	14	35	62	18
Bell Park	22	2	5	15	24	106	11

STATE LEAGUE DIVISION 3

FIRSTS

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Frankston	22	17	2	3	69	24	53
Ringwood City	21	13	5	3	57	18	44
Sth Springvale	22	12	5	5	50	26	41
Cranbourne	23	12	4	7	38	25	40
Dia Valley Utd	22	12	3	7	31	29	39
Fitzroy City	21	9	4	8	38	31	31
Sth Caulfield	23	10	3	10	40	40	30
Pascoe Vale	22	8	6	8	29	31	30
Melb City	23	6	7	10	35	40	25

Sth Werribee	22	6	6	10	39	43	24
Keilor Eagles	23	5	9	9	20	30	24
Chelsea	23	5	6	12	35	77	21
Banyule	23	4	8	11	29	50	20
Clifton Hill	22	1	4	17	14	60	7

RESERVES

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Cranbourne	23	18	3	2	96	20	57
Ringwood City	21	18	1	2	76	16	55
Keilor Eagles	22	16	4	2	62	21	52
Dia Valley Utd	22	12	3	7	57	37	39
Fitzroy City	22	11	5	6	61	44	38
Sth Springvale	20	10	4	6	50	26	34
Melb City	22	9	6	7	43	35	33
Frankston	21	9	4	8	75	43	31
Pascoe Vale	22	7	3	12	36	53	24
Sth Werribee	21	6	3	12	40	78	21
Banyule	22	5	3	14	44	74	18
Sth Caulfield	22	4	6	12	25	43	15
Chelsea	23	3	2	18	31	88	11
Clifton Hill	21	0	1	20	11	129	10

STATE LEAGUE DIVISION 4

FIRSTS

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Yarraville	22	15	4	3	49	23	49
Nth Coburg Utd	23	15	2	6	61	34	47
Geelong	23	13	7	3	49	29	46
Sun Heights	23	14	2	7	49	24	44
Stomington	23	3	4	6	49	30	43
Lalor	22	9	5	8	40	33	32
Langwarrin	23	8	6	9	45	36	30
Seaford Utd	23	8	4	11	34	42	28
Sunbury Utd	23	7	7	9	26	34	28
Monbulk	22	6	8	8	22	27	26
Moreland City	23	7	3	13	31	43	24
Corio	23	6	4	13	24	49	22
Williamstown	23	4	6	13	26	48	18
Sandr City	22	2	2	18	17	70	8

RESERVES

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Langwarrin	23	17	3	3	76	27	54
Sunbury Utd	23	15	3	5	39	22	48
Sun Heights	22	14	5	3	68	15	47
Lalor	22	12	6	4	53	30	42
Stomington	23	11	4	8	47	34	37
Seaford Utd	23	9	8	6	55	37	35
Yarraville	20	9	6	5	49	31	33
Nth Coburg Utd	21	10	2	9	57	59	32
Moreland City	22	8	2	12	39	43	26
Monbulk	21	5	6	10	22	41	21
Geelong	22	4	5	13	24	68	17
Corio	23	3	7	13	24	53	16
San'ham City	22	4	1	17	26	73	13
Williamstown	23	2	6	15	28	74	12

PROV LEAGUE DIVISION ONE

FIRSTS

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Geel Rangers	21	15	3	3	58	21	48
Keysborough	20	15	1	4	41	15	46
Melton	21	11	6	4	36	19	39
Sth Wantima	19	11	2	6	43	26	35
Sp'vale Condors	19	9	7	3	35	26	31
Knox Park	20	9	3	8	39	32	30
Nth Sunshine	19	8	3	8	34	30	27
Mitcham Utd	18	8	1	9	31	31	25
Old Scotch-Haw	20	7	3	10	30	24	24
Doveton	20	6	5	9	23	31	23
Mornington	20	6	3	11	19	42	21
Ballarat	20	5	3	12	18	40	18
Glenroy	21	4	5	12	27	42	17
Heidelberg City	20	2	1	17	12	67	7

RESERVES

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Knox Park	19	11	5	3	50	20	38
Melton	21	11	3	7	40	24	36
Mornington	20	10	4	6	32	37	34

Mitcham Utd	16	10	3	3	48	27	33
Glenroy	19	9	4	6	51	36	31
Ballarat	18	9	2	7	35	33	29
Nth Sunshine	18	8	3	7	28	31	27
Geel Rangers	21	7	5	9	40	47	26
Sp'vale Condors	18	8	3	7	44	36	24
Sth Wantima	18	5	6	7	28	32	21
Old Scotch-Haw	19	4	6	9	40	46	18
Keysborough	19	5	3	11	33	46	18
Heidelberg City	18	3	6	9	20	48	15
Doveton	18	3	3	12	24	50	12

PROV LEAGUE DIVISION TWO

FIRSTS

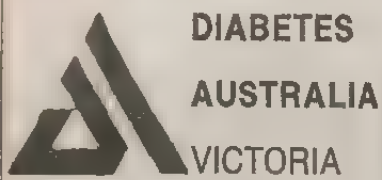
	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Endeavour Utd	19	12	5	2	78	19	41
Croxton	18	13	2	3	53	22	41
Lyndale United	19	12	4	3	58	25	40
Sth Yarra	20	11	2	7	48	42	35
Brandon Park	19	11	1	7	38	34	34
Hoppers Crossing	21	9	4	8	35	51	31
Brunswick City	20	9	3	8	34	29	30
Braeside Utd	20	8	4	8	35	35	28
Meadow Park	20	8	5	8	27	33	26
Berwick City	19	6	4	9	28	32	22
Hampt Pk Utd	18	4	6	8	25	37	18
Nth Glenroy	21	4	6	11	26	56	18
Dandenong	19	4	3	12	19	40	15
E Nun Eagles	21	2	1	18	16	65	7

RESERVES

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Endeavour Utd	19	15	2	2	70	24	47
Lyndale United	18	14	4	0	60	13	46
Dandenong	19	12	3	4	53	21	39
Brunswick City	20	11	5	4	39	26	38
Nth Glenroy	21	8	3	10	28	50	27
Meadow Park	18	7	5	6	33	30	26
Berwick City	18	7	4	7	44	37	25
Hampt Pk Utd	18	7	4	7	29	30	25
Hoppers Crossing	20	6	3	11	28	53	21
Sth Yarra	17	5	4	8	41	27	19
Braeside Utd	19	5	3	11	19	53	18
Croxton	16	5	2	9	25	40	17
E Nun Eagles	21	4	1	16	20	52	13
Brandon Park	18	2	3	13	21	54	9

PROV LEAGUE DIVISION 3

METRO LEAGUE



TACKLE DIABETES



STATE LEAGUE DIVISION ONE

SATURDAY 31ST AUGUST ROUND 24

Glen Ira City	V	Westgate
Broadmeadow City	V	Richmond
Werribee City	V	Preston
Croydon City	V	Springvale White Eagles
Lalor	V	Doncaster Rovers
Kingsdon City	V	Nothcote City
Moorabbin	V	Western Suburbs

STATE LEAGUE DIVISION TWO

SATURDAY 31ST AUGUST ROUND 24

Altona East	V	Knox City
Regent Bulla	V	Bell Park
Nunawading City	V	Westvale
Frankston Pines	V	Mooroolbark
Essendon B'wick Royals	V	Altona City
East Richmond	V	South Dandenong
Waverley City	V	Oakleigh

STATE LEAGUE DIVISION THREE

SATURDAY 31ST AUGUST ROUND 24

Pascoe Vale	V	Clifton Hill United
Chelsea	V	Banyule
Keilor Eagles	V	Sth Springvale
Melbourne City	V	Ringwood City
South Caulfield	V	Sth Werribee
Diamond Valley Utd	V	Cranbourne
Fitzroy City	V	Frankston

STATE LEAGUE DIVISION FOUR

SATURDAY 31ST AUGUST ROUND 24

Langwarrin	V	Monbulk
Corio	V	Stonnington City
Lalor	V	Mooreland City
Yarraville	V	Seaford Utd
Sandringham City	V	Coburg
Sunbury Utd	V	Geelong
Sunshine Hts	V	Williamstown

PROVISIONAL LEAGUE DIVISION ONE

FRIDAY AUGUST 30TH ROUND 22

Knox Park	V	Sth Wantima
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SATURDAY AUGUST 31ST ROUND 22

Nth Sunshine Eagles	V	Glenroy
Keysborough	V	Heidelberg City
Ballarat	V	Mornington
Doveton	V	Springvale Condors
Old Scotch-Hawthorn Ctl	V	Melton
Geelong Rangers	V	Mitcham Utd

PROVISIONAL LEAGUE DIVISION TWO

SATURDAY, 31ST AUGUST ROUND 22

Brunswick City	V	Hampton Park Utd
East Nun. Eagles	V	South Yarra
Braeside Utd	V	Lyndale Utd
Dandenong	V	Berwick City
Brandon Park	V	Meadow Park
Nth Glenroy	V	Endeavour Utd
Hoppers Crossing	V	Croxton

PROVISIONAL LEAGUE DIVISION THREE

METROPOLITAN

SATURDAY, 31ST AUGUST ROUND 20

Melb. Uni Rangers	V	Parkmore
Keilor Utd	V	Ringwood Rovers
Br'meadows Utd	V	Riversdale
Monash Uni	V	T'stowa Eagles
Ashburton	V	Elwood City
Newb/Yallourn	V	Uni Melb. Blues

PROVISIONAL LEAGUE DIVISION THREE -

SOUTH/EAST CENTRAL

SUNDAY, 1ST SEPTEMBER ROUND 20

Endeavour Hills	V	Nth Caulfield
Yarra Utd	V	Oakleigh Utd
East Kew	V	Noble Park
Collingwood City	V	Flem. Falcons
Cam. Gr. Old Boys	V	Thornbury
Ivanhoe Utd	V	Wav Wanderers

PROVISIONAL LEAGUE DIVISION THREE -

NORTH/WEST

SUNDAY, 1ST SEPTEMBER ROUND 20

Mill Park	V	Nth Reservoir
Latrobe Uni	V	Northern Utd
Keon Park	V	Sunshine Park
Diamond Valley	V	Sydenham Park
Darebin Utd	V	Upfield
Whittlesea Utd	V	West Preston

HEIDELBERG 4

SUNSHINE 0

BY LUKE BUTTIGIEG

Heidelberg United opened their 96 finals campaign with a crushing 4-0 victory over the struggling Sunshine Georgies on Sunday.

The Warriors win was even more impressive considering Bobby Despotovski, the VPL's leading goal scorer, has left for overseas trials in France and Belgium.

The first half was a scrappy affair, played at a frantic pace, and both teams especially Heidelberg, had clear-cut chances to open their accounts.

Just eight minutes later, Gary Hasler blew a golden opportunity to score, shooting straight at Sunshine keeper Steve Wardle who had no trouble with the save.

Hasler missed again in the 16th minute, his header from a George Svigos corner bouncing onto the ground and up over the crossbar. The Georgies' first chance came when Arthur Tsirtsakis crossed to Steve Stojanovski, but Stojanovski just failed to connect with his shot.

Chris Daglaras received the only yellow card of the game in the 27th minute, cautioned by referee John Fraser for his challenge on Svigos.

Con Boutsianis missed two identical shots in eight minutes, firstly shooting wide, and then failing to beat Wardle.

With the score deadlocked at half-time, Sunshine lost striker Juan Nilo through a hamstring injury, Nilo was replaced by Bill Makris.

The Warriors overcame a slow start to the second half, Brian MacNicol crossing for Andy Vlahos to head home in the 60th minute.

The Georgies' best chance came 10 minutes later, Tsirtsakis shooting just wide after receiving a Marco De La Plaza through ball. Joey De Bono was lucky not to concede a penalty after 73 minutes, before an animated Gary Hasler was substituted one minute later. Vlahos scored his second after 75 minutes, punishing Wardle from Boutsianis.

Heidelberg coach Dusan Brnovic's decision to replace Hasler with Jeff Stefanidis paid off in the 89th minute, Stefanidis having no trouble beating Wardle.

A Daglaras free kick was brilliantly saved by a diving Glenn Clarke in the 92nd minute before Boutsianis rounded off the scoring two minutes later.

Brnovic was pleased with the win, saying "I was proud



Brian McNicol: On the winning side with Heidelberg as they shut out Sunshine.

of my boys, they played well and covered the loss of Bobby Despotovski."

Georgies Coach, Willie Vassallo, was a dejected man, saying, "It was a disappointing finish after we contained them in the first half."

"Once the first goal went in, we dropped our heads but we must now quickly bounce back for next week's big clash with Green Gully," he said.

Sunshine will regain playmaker, Anthony Cassar, after a week's suspension, while Nilo is only rated a 50-50 chance of overcoming his hamstring injury.

United: Clarke, Tsoumerkas, Scott, Fak, MacNicol (Parisie 86m), Svigos, Iosifidis, Vlahos, Hasler (Stefanidis 74m), Tyrikos (Alexiou 80m), Boutsianis.

Georgies: Wardle, Kanesoulis, Field, Aretis, Nilo (Makris HT), Daglaras, Tsirtsakis, De La Plaza, De Bono (Spiteri 76m), Vassallo, Stojanovski (Tountas 66m).

Scorers: United - Vlahos 60m, 75m, Stefanidis 89m, Boutsianis 92m.

Yellow Cards: Georgies - Daglaras 27m

Red Cards: Nil
Crowd Approx: 1000
Referee: John Fraser

BENTLEIGH 1

GREEN GULLY 3

BY DWYGH TUFFNELL

Two goals from young striker, Vlad Babic propelled

Green Gully Cavaliers to a 3-1 win over Bentleigh Greens in the Victorian Premier League Elimination Final on Sunday.

Babic's double and another goal from Daniel Genovesi settled the controversial game in which five players were booked and two sent off.

Referee, Juergen Annus also allowed eight minutes of injury time in the second half to be played.

Genovesi had the Cavaliers in front after just six minutes when his persistence robbed Theo Constantinou of the ball and then beat Chris Jones from an extremely acute angle.

Green Gully continued the pressure and nearly scored shortly after from a lightning quick counter attack.

Annus turned a blind eye to Bentleigh penalty cries in the 25th minute when a cross struck Peter Stojcevski on the arm inside the area.

Cavaliers' keeper, Chris Vella performed heroics throughout the game but particularly excelled in the period leading up to half time. He harassed George Kalimeris out of what was to be a certain equaliser and then soon after, with his defence doing their best to concede a goal, he dealt with an ordinary backpass by miskicking the ball towards his net but recovered to beat the ball away from Harry Micheil.

Micheil had to be replaced at half time and the Greens conceded a second six minutes in.

Another counter attack saw Darren Scoble release Babic but his first shot was blocked by Stelios Drakos. Babic then had the composure to superbly lob the out of position Jones.

Defender Andy Theoharous gave his side some hope when he headed in a Mario Crivari cross in the 61st minute.

But just a minute later the Greens were down to ten men when Raff Bakker picked up his second caution after some shirt tugging.

Bentleigh had the play but couldn't create an opening for the equalising goal. Vella, was unbeatable and pulled off

FINALS RESULTS

Elimination Final

Bentleigh Greens 1 (Theoharous 61m) - Green Gully Cavaliers 3 (Genovesi 6m Babic 51m, 92m)

Qualifying Final

Heidelberg United 4 (Vlahos 60m, 75m Stefanidis 89m Boutsianis 94m) - Sunshine Georgies 0.

LEADING GOALSCORERS

- 25 Despotovski (Heidelberg)
- 20 Becvinovski (Altona)
- 15 Zinni (Thomastown)
- 13 Nilo (Sunshine)

PASCOE VALE SPORTS SCENE

TOP VOTES

- 25 - Alagiozidis (Bentleigh)
- 20 - Ngata (Thomastown)
- Cassar (Sunshine)
- Rusmir (Altona)
- 19 - Stojcevski (Bulleen)
- 18 - Cosic (North Geelong)
- 17 - Bell (Port Melbourne)
- Becvinovski (Altona)



Bobby Despotovski: Missing from the Bergers lineup as he is in Europe trialing.

a memorable save from a Drakos rocket.

It was then the Cavaliers turn to have a man sent off with Peter Stojcevski dismissed after tripping Andy Charalambous earned him a second yellow card.

Two minutes into injury time, Babic profited from another Scoble cross when he neatly volleyed past Jones.

The Cavaliers next week take on deadly rivals Sunshine Georgies who they beat 7-1 in the last round and coach Chris Taylor says that his side cannot be complacent.

"We beat them 7-1 last week and the supporters will expect us to do the same this week and get ourselves down to earth and stay focussed."

"If we can get through this one and get the players (John Waddell and Steve Douglas) back fit we'll be a threat to everyone."

Greens Coach, Harry Chalkitis remained buoyant despite the result saying that it had been a terrific year for his club and a big achievement to make the finals missing their

top three scorers like Alagiozidis, Zoran Todorovski and Lee Lutton for much of the season.

"If we had continued to beat sides easily with these three players missing it would have reflected badly on the Premier League."

Greens: Jones, Drakos, Micheil (Kotsovolos HT), Bakker, Constantinou, Theoharous, Charalambous, Kalimeris, McDonagh, Crivari, Papettas (Lutton 79m)

Cavaliers: Vella, P Spiteri, Climino, Chetcuti, Stafrace, Stoble, Suric, Neceski (Chiles 97m), Genovski (Douglas 65m), Babic, Stojcevski.

Scorers: Greens - Theoharous 61m, Cavaliers - Genovesi 6m, Babic 51m, 92m)

Yellow Cards: Greens - Theoharous 54m, Cavaliers - Genovesi 6m, Suric 25m, Babic 76m, P Spiteri 95m

Red Cards: Greens - Bakker 61m, Cavaliers - Stojcevski 69m

Crowd: Approx 800
Referee: Juergen Annus

NEXT WEEKS FIXTURES

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 1

MINOR SEMI FINAL

Green Gully Cavaliers v Sunshine Georgies
kick off 12.30pm

MAJOR SEMI FINAL

Heidelberg United v Altona Magic
kick off 3.00 pm

Both games to be played at

PAISLEY PARK NORTH ALTONA



mitre sports
absolute performance

OFFICIAL
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FEDERATION



ABSW'S PREMIER LEAGUE PLAYER OF THE YEAR

BY GREG BLAKE

Few players have had a more dramatic impact on a Premier League season than our 1996 Player of the Year Ike Alagiozidis.

Despite missing the final nine games of the 26-match season through injury the 28 year-old Bentleigh Greens star managed to romp away with the sixth annual ABSW-Pascoe Vale Sports Scene Premier League Player of the Year Award.

Ironically, Alagiozidis won the 1996 award by the same margin-five votes — as last year's winner Save Ausmir, with Rusmir one of

the trio of players to finish in this year's group of joint runners-up.

Alagiozidis finished on 25 votes, with Rusmir, in his first season with Altona Magic, Sunshine skipper Anthony Cassar and Thomastown Zebras' Kiwi international Harry Ngata all back on 20 votes for the year.

Voted in on the week-by-week votes of ABSW's expert Premier League reporting team, Alagiozidis took out the 1996 award in spectacular fashion, with his

slashing displays early season a major factor behind Bentleigh's drive for the finals in the club's first ever Premier League season.

His absence after an operation on a troublesome groin injury has been telling, although Alagiozidis is hoping for a return to help the club in the 1996 finals campaign.

As for the ABSW award, Alagiozidis, who won the Victorian Soccer Federation First Division best player award by a record margin last year, says he is grateful

for the recognition.

"I mean I wouldn't have died if I hadn't won it, but it's certainly a great honour to do so," he said.

"Obviously it's a team game, but part of it is to show off individual skills. "To have done so and been recognised is great and I am very excited to have won the award."

Alagiozidis is likely to move to Ericsson Cup team Gippsland Falcons for the coming summer when his contract ends after Bentleigh's final play-off

game.

He's been training under new Falcons coach Frank Arok after rejecting several other offers from Ericsson Cup rivals.

"I haven't signed for Gippsland but we've agreed on terms and the deal is more or less done," he explained.

"I had four or five offers, but Frank was very keen and his was the best offer."

"It's a great challenge and I'm looking forward to it."

All the winners down the years of Victoria's major media award from ABSW are:

1991 — BRIAN MACNICOL (Brunswick Juventus)
1992 — SASH BECVINOVSKI (Green Gully)
1993 — STEVE DIYGKAS (Albion)
1994 — JOSIP SKOKO (North Geelong)
1995 — SAVA RUSMIR (Pt Melbourne)
1996 — IKE ALAGIOZIDIS (Bentleigh Greens)

HOT SHOT BOBBY

Heidelberg United hot-shot Bobby Despotovski's goal haul during the 1996 home and away season is the Premier League's second best-ever since records were first kept in 1963.

However his 25 goals for the year was still six shy of the stunning 31 goal rampage of Green Gully's Paul Lewis back in 1983, a mark which looks set to stand for many years to come.

Despotovski, who will get another crack at the national league as one of the new signings for the Collingwood Warriors, has moved into the eighth spot on the single season Premier League all-time goals-per-game average table after his remarkable 1996 campaign.

Runner-up for the goalscoring award with a season total of 20 was Altona Magic's Sash Becvinovski.

It was a welcome return to form for Becvinovski, who was Premier League top scorer in 1991 and 1992 and his 1996 total was Becvinovski's best ever Premier League haul by three.

He won top gun in 1991 and 1992 with successive 17-goal seasons.

1996 PREMIER LEAGUE LEADING SCORERS:

- 25 — BOBBY DESPOTOVSKI (Heidelberg Utd)
- 20 — Sash Becvinovski (Altona Magic)
- 15 — Andrew Zinni (Thomastown Zebras)
- 14 — Vlad Babic (Green Gully)
- 13 — Juan Nilo (Sunshine Georgies)
Nick Georgeopoulos (Altona Magic)
- 12 — Dale White (Bulleen)
Alex Duric (Pt Melbourne)
Ike Alagiozidis (Bentleigh Greens)
- 10 — Andy Vlahos (Heidelberg Utd)
Nick Tsaltas (Pt Melbourne)
Zoran Todorovski (Bentleigh Greens)

THE FINAL STANDINGS

Minor Premiers — Altona Magic.

Finalists — Heidelberg United, Sunshine Georgies, Bentleigh Greens and Green Gully Cavaliers.

Relegated — Fawknor Blues and Springvale City Vales.

	<u>Home</u>					<u>Away</u>					<u>Total</u>								
	<u>w</u>	<u>d</u>	<u>l</u>	<u>f</u>	<u>a</u>	<u>w</u>	<u>d</u>	<u>l</u>	<u>f</u>	<u>a</u>	<u>pl</u>	<u>w</u>	<u>d</u>	<u>l</u>	<u>f</u>	<u>a</u>	<u>pts</u>		
1. Altona Magic*	9	2	2	36	10	9	0	4	22	15	26	18	2	6	58	25	56		
2. Heidelberg United	8	4	1	36	15	8	1	4	27	14	26	16	5	5	63	29	53		
3. Sunshine Georgies	9	1	3	16	11	7	3	3	22	21	26	16	4	6	38	32	52		
4. Bentleigh Greens	7	2	4	31	17	8	2	3	17	17	26	15	4	7	38	34	49		
5. Green Gully Cavaliers	6	5	2	32	17	6	5	2	19	13	26	12	10	4	51	30	46		
6. Thomastown Zebras	8	2	3	25	15	5	5	3	21	18	26	13	7	6	46	33	46		
7. Pt. Melbourne Sharks	7	5	1	35	14	4	4	5	24	28	26	11	9	6	59	42	42		
8. Bulleen Lions**	5	6	2	20	15	3	3	7	13	25	26	8	9	9	33	40	33		
9. Nth Geelong Warriors	6	2	5	15	18	2	3	8	13	26	26	8	5	13	28	44	29		
10. Albion Redsox ***	3	3	7	20	26	2	3	8	8	17	26	5	6	15	26	43	21		
11. St Albans Saints	3	4	6	16	18	2	2	9	15	31	26	5	6	15	31	49	21		
12. Box Hill Inter	3	1	9	10	25	2	5	6	17	29	26	5	6	15	27	54	21		
13. Fawknor Blues	3	3	7	9	17	1	4	8	15	32	26	4	7	15	24	49	19		
14. Springvale City Vales	2	3	8	18	27	1	3	9	13	32	26	3	6	17	31	59	15		

* Played one home game at Connor Reserve ** Played one home game at Paisley Park *** Played four home games at Connor Reserve

1996 PREMIER LEAGUE WRAP-UP

All the facts and figures on the season's winners and losers as 1996 draws towards its Grand Final climax.

All the HOME (verticalist) and AWAY (horizontal) results:

	Alb	ALM	B.Gr	B.H	Bull	Fawk	Gr.G	Held	NthGT	PIM	Spr	StA	SunG	Th.7
Alb	*	0-3	3-0	1-3	2-2	1-1	1-2	0-3	3-1	5-1	2-2	1-3	0-3	1-2
ALM	0-1	*	4-0	5-1	5-1	5-0	5-0	1-1	1-3	5-1	2-1	2-1	2-1	1-1
B.Gr	3-1	0-1	*	4-1	1-1	6-2	1-2	1-0	4-0	1-3	3-1	5-0	0-3	1-1
B.H	0-1	0-1	0-1	*	1-2	2-1	2-4	0-5	1-1	1-3	2-1	1-0	0-2	0-4
Bull	2-0	2-1	0-1	1-1	*	1-1	1-1	1-1	1-0	3-5	2-1	3-0	1-1	2-2
Fawk	0-0	0-3	0-1	2-1	0-2	*	0-0	1-3	1-0	0-2	0-1	2-2	0-1	3-1
Gr.G	3-1	2-1	1-3	3-3	4-0	3-2	1-3	*	1-1	5-2	5-0	1-0	2-2	1-1
Held	1-0	4-0	5-1	3-3	4-0	3-2	1-3	*	1-1	5-2	5-0	1-0	2-2	1-1
NthGT	2-0	0-3	0-0	1-1	1-0	2-1	2-0	0-3	*	2-0	3-2	0-3	1-2	1-2
PIM	2-0	3-0	1-1	4-0	1-1	1-1	2-2	3-1	1-3	*	7-0	3-1	5-2	2-2
Spr	2-1	1-3	1-3	1-1	0-1	5-3	0-2	0-2	2-3	3-3	*	2-2	0-1	1-2
StA	1-1	2-3	0-1	2-4	3-2	0-1	0-0	2-0	3-1	1-1	0-0	*	1-2	1-2
SunG	0-0	1-2	1-2	2-0	1-0	2-1	1-0	0-3	1-0	2-1	2-1	2-1	*	1-0
Th.7	1-0	0-1	2-4	1-0	3-2	1-1	1-2	4-1	1-0	1-1	2-1	4-1	3-1	*

Final standings in the 1996 Pascoe Vale Sports Scene Player of the Year Award:

- 25 — IKE ALAGIOZIDIS (Bentleigh Greens)
- 20 — Sava Rusmir (Altona Magic)
- Anthony Cassar (Sunshine Georgies)
- Harry Ngata (Thomastown Zebras)
- 19 — Robbie Stojceviski (Bulleen)
- 18 — Robbie Cosic (North Geelong)
- 17 — Sash Becvinovski (Altona Magic)
- Clayton Bell (Port Melbourne)
- 16 — Vlad Babic (Green Gully) Bobby Despotovski (Heidelberg Utd)
- 15 — George Georgiadis (Heidelberg Utd)
- Claude Lucchesi (Albion)
- Tom Markovski (Altona Magic)
- Ante Deak (Nth Geelong)
- Manan Taseviski (Altona Magic)
- 14 — John Kanasoulis (Sunshine Georgies)
- Tom Karapatsos (Heidelberg Utd)
- Mike Branov (Fawknor)
- Joe Tricanco (Thomastown Zebras)
- 13 — Dale White (Bulleen)
- Joey Didulica (North Geelong)
- John Waddell (Green Gully)

Commitments on the day pending, Alagiozidis will be presented with his trophy and \$500 cheque for winning the ABSW — Pascoe Vale Sports Scene 1996 Player of the Year at a special ceremony during the half time break on Grand Final day, Sunday, September 15.



WOMEN'S WRITES

BY JANENE MAR



STRATEGIES FOR OUR FUTURE

VISION

Women's soccer the national sport, capturing the imagination of Australia

- Enjoyment • The first choice for girls • Lots of kids and all ages playing
- Sense of achievement at all levels — beginners to Olympic • Girl friendly environment
- Pride • Huge spectator support • Excitement

Last weekend, AWSA conducted a two-day Women's Soccer Development Workshop in Canberra to construct a workable new Development Plan for the years 1997 to 2000.

Delegates from each of the nine State Federations, including Development Officers and key administrative personnel, joined with AWSA and Soccer Australia representatives. Together they thrashed out concepts, needs, ideas, problems, innovations and projects in order to come up with women's soccer's vision for the future development of the game in all its facets.

Development is here used in a broad sense, encompassing ultimately all facets of the sport, but a particular concentration was placed on participation as the

key to success.

Facilitators for the workshop were two professionals from outside the soccer ranks. Janette Hartz Karp, a consultant from Perth, worked with Allan McKinnon from the Australian Sports Commission to bring out the creative minds of those in attendance, assisting them to also look beyond their normal realms of thought.

Values, visualisations, reasons, motivations — all these and more became the ingredients of the resultant 'common vision'.

The previous national Development Plan was examined for its strengths and weaknesses, along with past experiences of the States, both bad and good. Practices of other sports were also considered for their possible translation to women's soccer.

Positives, negatives, brainstorming, feedback —

BREAKTHROUGH STRATEGIES

- Innovative marketing and promotion
- Develop sound infrastructure • Competitions

and what emerged was the identification of strategies for the sport's future growth, and just as importantly, targets by which to measure such progress.

Critical to any plan of action is its workability. Strategies had to be considered important in terms of the sport's long term vision, low cost, and be easy to implement.

Accountability, action, contingency, consensus — the plans are drawn up, the tactics discussed, and the weekend adjourns with everyone enthusiastic and enlightened.

But implementation in these instances is always the key and often the most

difficult part of the process. It should be interesting to see how everything all pans out. Hopefully it will be for the good of the game at all levels in each of those nine States as well as the AWSA.

AWSA and the States all presented their own individual action plans, working within the three main strategies.

Janette Spencer, AWSA Board Member with the portfolio of Development, will oversee the project from here on, regularly communicating with the States for progress reports. "In the past, we've never had that link — knowing exactly what the States want to achieve," she said.

Each of the States varied in their targeted projects, illustrating the differences in stages of development within each Association. "We have to recognise that fact, that each State is at its own individual stage and has different needs," emphasised Spencer. "AWSA must be flexible in these development plans. The important thing is for us to act as a channel."

"I'm a real team person — progress is achieved together," added Spencer. "The important thing now is for me to follow up. But the States also have their own responsibility to follow up as well."

AWSA's seed of a project

is the establishment of a National Soccer Congress to be held each year in conjunction with the Senior Australian Championship. It is envisaged it will develop into a forum for discussion, to also include a trade display and opportunities for sponsors.

"This year it will probably be just a one-day event, but I'm quite excited with the potential of the idea," said Spencer. "It will be a great chance for officials and elite players to get together in the one place."

I was very confident the weekend would be a success," added Spencer. "And it was also the opportunity for networking, something that is very important. This is the first time State development officers have got together. Now they are all happy to contact each other to discuss issues."

Of course, the year 2000 is

more than an appropriate timeline for which to aim. the Olympic Games in Sydney will be the greatest spectacle of women's football this country will ever witness. The opportunities are endless, and all to be taken to their full advantage.

"If we can't achieve these things now in the lead-up to 2000, then maybe we never will," said Spencer. "2000 is our best opportunity to get out there and promote ourselves. I'm quite confident — certainly all these targets are achievable."

As a regular follow-up to this plan now put to paper is a teleconference link-up of all the States to be held every three months. "We'll continue this network," explained Spencer. "It's a good starting point to work together as a group."

WESTON BACK ON TOP

Weston Creek Women's Soccer Club have wrestled the ACTWSA premiership title back from rivals Canberra City after spending the last two seasons as bridesmaids, a position with which they were unfamiliar.

Weston Creek won the title twelve years running until 1994, an incredible effort which also earned them the world record for consecutive football premierships.

But this 13th premiership is the most memorable in the mind of team captain Jeany Skorupa. "The closeness of

the competition, along with the fact that we were struggling to even get a side together just a week before the competition began, makes this victory so memorable," said Skorupa.

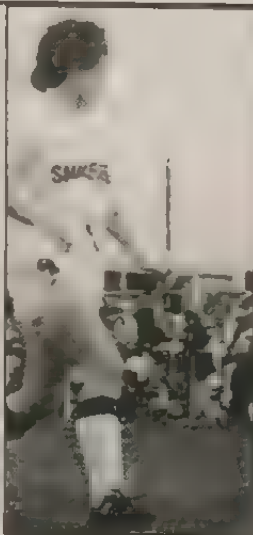
However the triumph was soured by a serious knee injury to Skorupa who has been with the club for each of those thirteen years. She is hoping the damage is not to the same ligaments she has had reconstructed in recent years.

"I suppose this just reinforces my retirement which I have threatened for

the last three seasons!", she said with obvious disappointment. A recipient of achievement awards from both ACTWSA and AWSA, Skorupa will remain involved as a club administrator.

Canberra City finished as runners-up, two points behind Weston Creek, with Burns Stormbirds following closely behind in third.

Belconnen United and ANU now join these sides in the Club Cup, the ACT season concluding on Saturday 31 August with the Cup final at O'Connor Oval at 3.00 pm.



Joanne Peters: Visionary for the future.

Win! ASICS Kit

It's just about finals time in soccer competitions across the country, and to help you get into the spirit, Asics and ABSW bring you the chance to win the ultimate addition to your soccer wardrobe.

Get in your entry for a shot at winning one of three Australian Team Asics strips in the latest modern designs. The three best entries will win a full kit — shirt, short and socks worth over \$80 each.

Very popular with the Australian team players themselves, the range extends to three great designs.

All three feature the AWSA logo in a different and striking way. The fashionable favourite has been the blue and emerald stripe jersey with the logo subliminated on the fabric through each emerald stripe.

The white version is anything but plain with its large centrepiece 'watermark' logo embossed across the front.

Latest addition is the gold shirt, a long sleeve jersey with a trio of AWA logo throughout the material.

All three will keep you in the fashion stakes with the grand prize a collar finish.

Even if you're not a winner here, you can still get your hands on this merchandise. Asics are now stocking retail sports shops so you can look the part as a supporter of Australian women's soccer. Wherever you are, make enquiries with your favourite sport store.

For your chance to win, tell us who your favourite female soccer player is and why. Please limit your entry to 50 words or less. The three entries judged as the best will each win an Asics kit — shirt, shorts and socks.

To complete your entry, please make sure you add your name, telephone number address, and

age. The competition has been extended until August 30.

Entries must be received by: —
FRIDAY 30TH AUGUST, 1996

At the following mailing address:

Women's Writes
ASICS COMPETITION
9B/18 Lucy Street,
Ashfield, NSW 2131.



Sonia Gegenhuber, Katrina Boyd and Lisa Casagrande: With the ASICS Australia team shirts which are the prizes in the competition.

ACT FUNDRAISER

ACTWSA are holding a dinner next month to assist with that all important matter of fund raising.

The theme of the night is "We've burnt the flame in Atlanta — let's move towards 2000." ACTWSA are hopeful the event will also be a show of support from the Canberra business community wanting soccer in the year 2000.

Tables of ten are selling at \$1000 each, which includes a three course meal, beer, wine, soft drink, and live entertainment. Guest speakers will be National Coach Tom Sermanni, and Soccer Australia's High Performance Manager Peter Hugg.

Then at the end of the evening, a draw will be conducted with the winning table walking away with \$10,000.

The dinner will be held at the Federation Square Function Centre at 7.00 pm on Friday 6th September.

For further information, please contact Sarah Groube on (06) 248.5834 during business hours.



Tom Sermanni: National Coach.



Atlanta 1996

TM © 1992 ACOG



SOUTH AMERICA

— COMPILED BY MARIO ETCHART —



URUGUAY RESULTS

Nacional	2	Penarol	1
Liverpool	0	Rampla Juniors	0
Cerro	2	Danubio	2
Defensor Sporting	2	Wanderers	1
River Plate	1	Central Espanyol	2
Huracan Buceo	2	Sud America	0

(Huracan awarded 2-0 win as Sud America have withdrawn from league)

TABLE

Nacional	5	5	0	0	14	5	15
Huracan Buceo	5	3	2	0	5	1	11
Defensor Sporting	5	3	1	1	9	5	10
Penarol	5	2	2	1	13	7	8
Danubio	5	2	2	1	11	7	8
Rampla Juniors	5	1	4	0	2	1	7
Central Espanyol	5	1	2	2	2	3	5
Cerro	5	1	2	2	6	11	5
Wanderers	5	1	1	3	4	7	4
Liverpool	5	0	4	1	3	5	4
River Plate	5	0	2	3	6	10	2
Sud America	3	0	0	3	0	11	0

Sud America withdrew from league after three matches

BRAZIL RIO DE JANEIRO CHAMPIONSHIP

Bahia	2	Atletico Paranaense	0
Corinthians	1	Guarani	0
Coritiba	1	Atletico Mineiro	0
Cruzeiro	2	Vitoria	1
Flamengo	0	Juventude	1
Goias	3	Sport Recife	1
Oremio	6	Bragantino	1
Palmeiras	3	Vasco da Gama	1
Portuguesa	2	Parana	0

Nacional wins the Uruguayan Derby

The Uruguayan derby, played at Montevideo's historic Centenario Stadium, in front of 55,000 fans, went Nacional's way.

The team, coached by Miguel Angel Puppo, defeated arch-rivals and current Uruguayan champion, Penarol, 2-1, in a dramatic encounter decided in the last few minutes of the match.

Penarol went 1-0 ahead in the first half with a goal scored by veteran Uruguayan

international midfielder Pablo Bengoechea.

But in a strong comeback, Nacional scored twice in the last 15 minutes to win the game and consolidate its position at the top of the table.

Gustavo Badell and midfielder Nelson Abeijon gave Nacional the final victory.

However, Penarol's striker, Luis Romero was the best man on the park, according to press reports

VELEZ SARSFIELD ONCE AGAIN

Velez Sarsfield, after a dramatic 0-0 draw against

Independiente, in the last round of the National League first phase, won the championship for the second time in a row.

The Argentine champions, who lost its coach Carlos Bianchi and one of its best defenders, Roberto Trotta, midway through the competition, to Italian club AC Roma, won its fourth championship in the last five years, and it is the first club to win two consecutive competitions since the Argentine league has been divided in two tournaments: first phase and second phase.

The hero of the match was Paraguayan international goalkeeper Jose Luis

Chilavert who saved a penalty from Independiente's midfielder Jorge Burruchaga in the 62nd minute.

Carlos Bianchi flew from Rome to be with his former team, showing his love and loyalty to the club where he first played as a professional.

Velez Sarsfield qualified to the 1996 Libertadores Cup, the major championship at club level in South America, a tournament that Velez won in 1994 for the first time in its history.

The other team to represent Argentina in the Libertadores Cup had to be decided between Racing Club, runners-up of the second phase and Gimnasia y Esgrima de La Plata, runners-up of the first phase.

After 19 rounds Velez

Sarsfield finished at the top of the table with 41 points from 11 wins, 7 draws and only on loss, scoring 40 goals and receiving 18.

Gimnasia was second with 39 points, followed by Lanus and Estudiantes de La Plata with 34 each. Boca Juniors with 33, Rosario Central with 30 and Racing Club and Huracan with 29 each.

Libertadores Cup champions, River Plate, ended in 15th place with only 21 points, while Argentinos Juniors was relegated to second division.

The former club of players of the calibre of Diego Armando Maradona, Fernando Redondo and Carlos MacAllister, among others, suffered one of the worst economic crisis in its history.

Colo Colo leads the Chilean League

Colo Colo, the most popular club in Chile, maintained its comfortable lead in the local league after its 3-3 draw with Universidad Catolica, in a dramatic match watched by 40,000 spectators at Santiago's National Stadium.

Former Argentine international midfielder, Marcelo Espina, opened the account for Colo Colo after only four minutes of play, but Universidad's international striker Sebastian Rozental equalised three minutes later, and added the second for the "students" in the 17th.

However, Colo Colo's striker Marcelo Barticciotto, also from Argentina, put the score 2-2 in the 19th.

Colo Colo went ahead in the 28th minute of the second half when former Chilean international striker, Ivo Bassay, netted with a header.

But man of the match, Sebastian Rozental,

completed his hat-trick, in the 40th, to level the scoreline.

Current Chilean champion, Universidad de Chile, beat O'Higgins, 4-2, with goals from Argentine striker Walter Silvani, twice, former Argentine international midfielder Leonardo Rodriguez, and Jose Luis Sanchez.

After 21 rounds, Colo Colo leads the competition with 43 points, followed by Universidad de Chile with 36, Universidad Catolica 35, Cobreloa and Audax Italiano 31, Coquimbo 30, Antofagasta 29 and Santiago Wanderers 28.

Santiago Wanderers' striker, Mario Venner, is the highest scorer of the tournament with 22 goals, followed by Ivo Bassay of Colo Colo with 15, and Sebastian Rozental of Catolica with 13.

URUGUAY FOR JAPAN

Uruguayan coach Hector Nunez took a squad of 18 players to Japan.

Among them are goalkeeper Roberto Soboldi, who plays for Mexican first division club Universidad de Nuevo Leon, and Penarol's young midfielder

Gonzalo de Los Santos.

Siboldi was distinguished as the best "Foreign Player" in the Mexican Soccer League by the country's associated press, while De Los Santos made his first appearance for an Uruguayan team in the last South American

Olympic qualifier, held in Mar Del Plata, Argentina, last March.

Nunez didn't take into consideration most of the overseas based players, but they will comeback to the team for the next World Cup South

American qualifying game in October.

THE SQUAD IS:

Sebastian Abreu (Defensor Sporting), Javier Delgado (Danubio), Gonzalo De Los Santos (Penarol), Jorge Goncalves (Cerro), Juan Gonzalez (Nacional), Pablo Hernandez (Defensor Sporting), Luis Jonne (Cerro), Rodrigo

Lemos (Nacional), Carlos Nicola (Nacional), Nelson Oliveira (Penarol), Ruben Pereira (Penarol), Fernando Picun (River Plate), Alvaro Recoba (Nacional), Luis Romero (Penarol), Marcelo Saralegui (Colon of Santa Fe, Argentina), Robert Siboldi (Universidad de Nuevo Leon, Mexico), and Tabare Silva (Defensor Sporting).

IN BRIEF:

• Boca Juniors want to buy more players. The most popular club in Argentina is after Racing's midfielder Roberto Pompei; Argentine striker Martin Villalonga, who plays for Mexican club Toros of Neza; Independiente's midfielder Diego Cagna, and Newell's Old Boys midfielder Julio Cesar Torresani.

• Velez Sarsfield's reserve goalkeeper Sandro Daniel Guzman has moved to Boca Juniors. Boca paid Velez \$A650,000.

• Venezuelan International midfielder Felix Hernandez will play for Argentine club Talleres of Cordoba. Hernandez is on loan for one year.

• Another Venezuelan International, striker Dionni Guerra will play for Chilean first division club Deportes Concepcion.

• Uruguayan champion Penarol of Montevideo received an invitation to take part in the Orange Cup to be held in Valencia, Spain on August 25. The other teams are the locals with its Brazilian star striker Romario, Flamengo of Brazil are the third participants.

• Sud America, one of the oldest teams in Uruguayan soccer has withdrawn its team from the current First division due to financial problems.

• A consortium led by Diego Maradona almost bought the club last year for a reported \$A500,000.

• The most expensive South American player of today is Brazilian striker Ronaldo, for whom Barcelona paid \$A21 million.

• Argentine club, San Lorenzo have bought Racing club striker Juan Ramon Fleita for a reported \$A1.3 million and striker Silvano Macel from Estudiantes de La Plata for \$A650,000.

• Paraguayan International goalkeeper Jose Luis Chilavert is on the market if the price is right. Argentine champion, Velez Sarsfield will sell the controversial keeper for not less than \$A3.5 million.

• Daniel Cordoba, coach of Estudiantes de la Plata decided to continue at the helm of the Argentine team, Cordoba received an offer to coach Chilean first division club Universidad Catolica but he's stayed put.

• "I am very comfortable at Estudiantes. I will leave the club only if I receive an offer from AC Milan," said the ambitious Cordoba.

• FIFA general secretary, Joseph Blatter believes Argentina will not qualify for France '98 if they keep playing like they did against Ecuador and Peru. "I didn't like the way they played," said Blatter.

• Argentina lost 2-0 against Ecuador in Quito and drew 0-0 with Peru in Lima.

• Nacional of Quito won the Ecuadorian first division after beating Aucas 1-0 in the last round of the competition. The champions qualified for the 1997 Libertadores Cup.

• According to unofficial sources, Boca Juniors showed interest in Universidad de Chile's star striker Marcelo Salas. The player wasn't aware of such interest but said that he would be happy to play for the Argentine giant.

The same sources said that Universidad's coach, Miguel Angel Russo, recommended Marcelo Salas to Boca's manager Carlos Salvador Bilardo.

The player is unhappy with club officials after the failure of his transfer to an European club some weeks ago.

• Another player from the Chilean championship, defender Cristian Traverso could be transferred to San Lorenzo.

• Costa Rica will play a friendly international against Peru in Lima as part of its build-up preparation for the CONCACAF qualifying rounds. The Central Americans, coached by Brazilian tactician Valdeir Vieira, drew 0-0 with Honduras, in another friendly played in Tegucigalpa.

Costa Rica will play its first qualifying match for the 1988 World Cup against Trinidad & Tobago on September 1.

ASIA

Tiger Cup ready to go

Thailand will be the obvious favourites to lift the first Tiger Cup.

The tournament, which will be played in Singapore at two stadia, will start on September 1 with the opening game pitting the hosts against neighbours and great rivals Malaysia.

That game will be the first meeting of the two since Singapore broke away from Malaysia, in footballing terms, and set up their own

professional league - the S. League.

With a side based around the country's 'boy wonder' Fandi Ahmad, the Singaporeans will be out to show up the Malaysians and impose themselves on the tournament early on.

A win in the opening game would put them in a great position to qualify from Group B, which also features Thailand, the Philippines and Brunei. The top two in each

group qualify for the semi-finals and it is this group that looks the most difficult of the two.

Group A consists of the five remaining countries - Laos, Vietnam, Myanmar (formerly Burma), Cambodia and Indonesia.

Of these Vietnam and Indonesia would be seen as the favourites for qualification for the semi-finals. With Vietnam confounding the critics and reaching the final

of the SEA Games and Indonesia already qualifying for the Asian Cup finals, it is unlikely these two will be topped.

Indonesia boast the talents of Dwi Yulianto Kurniawan, the only Asian player currently connected to a club in Europe.

Players such as Asep Dyat and bald centre-back Aples Tecuari are just two of the players who are capable of taking the trophy back to Jakarta.

The other likely semi-finalists, Vietnam, have

recently returned to the international scene and have done so with some success.

By reaching the final of the SEA Games they surprised many and, if it had not been for the fact that they were slightly overawed by the occasion in Chiang Mai, they may well have done better.

One side who may upset the appellation in Group A is Myanmar, semi-finalists in the SEA Games who only failed to make the final when Vietnam defeated them in sudden-death extra-time.

Since then Myanmar have

brought in a new coach, Yugoslavian Ratimir Dujkovic.

Like many, including Laos and Cambodia, the raw talent is there - it just needs to be tapped and developed properly.

Another country which has the same problem is the Philippines. Again, like most of the countries in South East Asia, there is no professional league in the Philippines and, as a result, the players lack the technical know-how and physical conditioning that full-time football brings.

Cambodia remains the unknown quantity as this is only their second football tournament in many years, the first being the last SEA Games. With that isolation comes inexperience and it is unlikely they will cause any upsets but the competition will act as part of Cambodia's international rehabilitation.

Singapore, with home advantage, will fancy their chances but it is difficult to back anyone other than the all-conquering Thais come September 1.

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GOALS GALORE AND A TOUCH OF MAGIC

but not losing your first game is the most important thing.

Derby, the other Premiership newcomers, also had a draw but a wonderful 3-3 against Leeds United after being 2-0 and 3-2 down. A great fight-back with Sturridge scoring twice for the Rams.

Sunday saw Southampton and Chelsea draw 0-0 and the Monday game matched Liverpool and Arsenal together at Anfield. A 2-0 win for the home side wasn't perhaps a fair result but the game lacked spark. McManaman's first took a wicked deflection off Steve Bould when Dave Seaman looked to have it covered after 63 minutes and his second after 78 looked to be mis-hit. No matter really because they all count.

If the rest of the year is as exciting as the opening day, get the pace makers ordered now.

A pulsating afternoon of football which bodes very well for the next 10 months.

👉 **Congratulations** to Fulham Football Club on finally sorting out the future of their ground, Craven Cottage. Chairman, Jimmy Hill and co have spent many years trying to keep the club at its home amid rumours of groundsharing with Chelsea in past years.

Craven Cottage is a homely little ground and takes its name from the cottage that stands in the corner and Mr Hill has already stated that this will be kept even though future plans for redeveloping the site into a 15,000 all seater stadium will begin shortly.

Hopefully, a new ground, less burden on finances due to legal actions and whatever, will see the return of the glory days to the club that boasted Johnny Haynes, George Best, Bobby Moore and Rodney Marsh amongst its players of the past. A distinguished list for a great little side.

👉 **Surprise, surprise!** After two matches in Scotland, Rangers head Celtic at the top of the Premier League table. The two clubs might as well start as they mean to go on but don't be too non-plussed if the two swap positions on the final day.

Both sides safely negotiated their 2nd round Coca Cola Cup matches and it appears "business as usual" north of the border.

👉 **Arsene Wenger** is the likely candidate to take the manager's job at Highbury. It's rumoured he has put in a list of players names to the North London side and two of those have already been procured in

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VIDEO REVIEW

Trouble on the Terraces
Narrated by Sean Bean

Another suited to an over 18 audience but for those who believe they'll see hours of gratuitous, mindless violence, think again. Here we have a documentary style video, lasting for 90 minutes approx, that looks at all aspects of the "English Disease", not that it covers just the English mind you.

In undertaking the making of this video, (a book too I believe?), the production team have attempted to look at the problem from all aspects and enlist the help of a former Millwall "Bushwhacker" and the still active elements representing Spurs, Leeds, West Ham and Aberdeen to mention a few.

Added to this can be the "Scottish Casuals" and also Criminologists, Psychologists, Anthropologists and just about any other "ist" you can think of.

Hooligans, as they are often described, is not an English name but in fact

comes from an Irishman, Patrick Houlihan, who attacked and robbed citizens in the last century. His fellow cohorts were then tagged with being "Hooligans". This was then attached to football "rowdies" before they finally became the mindless thugs so often reported in the paparazzi of the world.

Troubles on the Terraces traces the emergence of football related violence and tries to offer reasons for its rapid growth and sadly enough, it basically comes down to a growing economy.

With the advent of the "Mods and Rockers" problems of the 50s and 60s aligned to more disposable income, better and cheaper transport and a growing amount of leisure time, more people had the opportunity to travel etc. What better way than spend an afternoon at the football?

The perpetrators of these actions have often been referred to "not real supporters" but an interesting twist comes from an Italian Journalist who talks about the "Ultra's" in Italy and explains

"they are not 90 minute supporters but spend the entire week coordinating the choreography and songs for the weekend. They live, eat, breath their clubs and like others, defend them totally".

This video does not glorify football violence. It attempts to realistically answer the reasons as to why and what for. Far better than previous productions, well made and talks sense. Available from: Tracks, 14 Railway Street, Hertford, Herts SG14-1BG. Priced at 13:50 (Stg) inc postage.

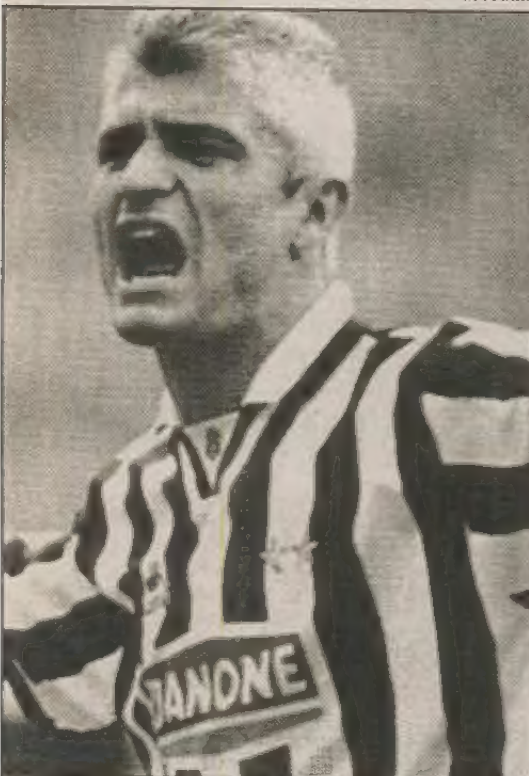
Star Rating: ****1/2

👉 **Shock of the year,** Sheffield Wednesday



Kevin Campbell: You could have named your own odds against a hat-trick.

heading the Premier League table with 6 points from two games. The only Premier League side with a 100% record.



Fabrizio Ravenelli: Took his shirt off his head to pose for this pic.



Stewart Houston: New man in charge ... Arsenal's new coach.

BRECHIN CITY

BY STUART JONES

Ground:	Glebe Park
Address:	Trinity Road, Brechin, Angus DD9 6BJ
Railway Station:	Monfrose
Founded:	1906
Admitted to League:	1923
Ground Capacity:	3,980
Seats:	1,518
Pitch Size:	110 yards by 67 yards
Largest Gate:	8,122 v Aberdeen Scottish Cup Rd 3 Feb 1973
Biggest Win:	12-1 v Thornhill Scottish Cup Rd 1 28 Jan 1928
Biggest Loss:	0-10 v Airdrie, Albion R and Cowdenbeath all Division Two 1937-38
Nickname:	"The City"
Colours:	Red with White trimmings
Honours:	Second Division League: 1982-83, 1989-90 C Division 1953-54

History: Brechin was created from the amalgamation of Brechin Hearts and Brechin Harp. They first played at Glebe Park in August 1906. After ground improvements on entering Division Two in 1929 Glebe Park hardly changed right through until the 1970s.

In February 1973 the ground held its record attendance of 8,123 and in August 1977 the club installed floodlights. In 1981 the old stand was replaced by a single tier construction. Glebe Park the ground is amidst beautiful scenery while Brechin is the smallest place in Great Britain to have its own League team.

From Glebe Park you can see the Glencadam distillery and if it gets a crowd of 1,000 then the equivalent in terms of city size proportion would be a crowd of 77,000 at Leeds Utd.

Brechin finished runners up last season in Division Three and this year will be honing their skills in Scotland's Division Two.

LE TISSIER IN FAVOUR WITH HODDLE

England coach Glenn Hoddle has selected his first squad, calling up for the first time Manchester United midfielder David Beckham and recalling inconsistent playmaker Matthew Le Tissier.

The 21 year old United midfielder, who scored a remarkable goal from the halfway line, a la Damian Mori, against Wimbledon and Southampton's enigmatic Le Tissier both made the party

for the opening World Cup qualifier in Moldova on September 1.

Squad:
Goalkeepers: David Seaman (Arsenal), Ian Walker (Tottenham), David James (Liverpool), **Defenders:** Gary Neville (Man Utd), Stuart Pearce (Nottm Forest), Gary Pallister (Man Utd), Steve Howey (Newcastle), Gareth Southgate (Aston Villa), Sol Campbell (Tottenham).

Midfielders: Paul

Gascoigne (Rangers), Paul Ince (Inter Milan), Steve McManaman (Liverpool), David Batty (Newcastle), Matthew Le Tissier (Southampton), David Beckham (Man Utd), Steve Stone (Nottm Forest), **Forwards:** Nick Barmby (Middlesbrough), Darren Anderton (Tottenham), Teddy Sheringham (Tottenham), Alan Shearer (Newcastle), Les Ferdinand (Newcastle), Robbie Fowler (Liverpool).

Scotland include McCoist

Duncan Ferguson is back in the Scotland soccer fold after a 20 month exile during which he spent 44 days in the country's roughest jail.

Craig Brown named the towering, in-form Everton striker in his squad for the opening World Cup qualifying match against Austria in Vienna on Saturday August 31.

Squad:
Goalkeepers: Andy Gorm (Rangers), Jim Leighton (Hibernian), Nicky Walker (Aberdeen), **Defenders:** Jackie McNamara (Celtic), Derek Whyte (Middlesbrough), Colin Hendry (Blackburn), Tosh McKinlay (Celtic), Tommy Boyd (Celtic), Colin Calderwood (Tottenham), **Midfielders:** Craig Burley (Chelsea), John Collins (Monaco), Scott Gemmill (Notts Forest), Gary McAllister (Coventry), Stuart McCall (Rangers), William McKinlay (Blackburn).

Forwards: Gordon Durie (Rangers), Duncan Ferguson

(Everton), Kevin Gallacher (Blackburn), Darren Jackson (Hibernian), Eoin Jess

(Coventry), Ally McCoist

(Rangers), John Spencer (Chelsea).



Ally McCoist

Weird and Wonderful

The new season certainly saw lots of goals being scored. Round Two also saw heaps more and, it looks like its going to be a boomer in England. In Scotland Rangers have started well while Celtic have already dropped two points, the battle certainly has begun in earnest. Congratulations to Barry Town who have made it to the first round proper of the UEFA Cup.

*The Arsenal saga continues to rumble, directors, reportedly saying they made a mistake in their choice of manager last season and they are looking for a new European outlook. Fair enough but did not Rioch get them into Europe? Why not give the manager at the Gunners the power to buy and negotiate with players they want? Wenger is coming but will that mean players will also come with Arsenal wage system? And what of the youth system left to rot by previous managers at Arsenal. It's tough times ahead for the Gunners one thinks.

Congratulations to Alan Shearer for scoring on his home debut. Not scoring at Everton is the first time he has not scored for his club or country on his league debut. But what a great goal he scored at St James Park!!

In the lower leagues the Coca Cola Cup is underway with Wolves having to come back from two goals down in the second leg. Bad luck to Tony Popovic for not getting a contract in England. He is a great player and I think some clubs will regret not having him. Especially Wolves after their defensive frailties were shown up in the Coca Cola Cup.

Here are some FA Cup amazing stats:

1. Bolton knocked out both Preston and Wolves in both 1958 and 1959.
2. Shrewsbury beat Doncaster 3 seasons running from 1976.
3. Bolton met Preston 3 years running from 1964.

4. Manchester United met Middlesbrough 3 seasons in a row from 1970, all games having to be replayed.

5. Manchester United played Stoke Burnley and Wolves in the FA Cup of 1965, having played league fixtures against all three clubs the Saturday before each tie.

6. Halifax and Hartlepool drew 1-1 in the FA Cup three campaigns running.

7. Manchester City and Leicester met four times in successive seasons, culminating in the Final at Wembley in 1969. They also met in the League Cup in 1965 and 1967.

For all those disappointed with their club's start to the season - remember last season saw Manchester United lose 3-0 to Aston Villa in the first match and yet look what they went onto.

It's great to have football back and I must say I enjoyed watching the games on Optus Vision. That combined with Monday night meant I saw two full games plus all the action from the rest. When it comes to Sport, Optus seems to come out on top every time. They have the final of the Euro Champs and Cup winners Cup as well as Dutch, American and Brazilian Football. And our own League.

Finally a comment on the furore over Australian teams with Foreign symbols. Soccer Australia are very petty if that is all they have to worry over. Italian teams have other countries as part of the team kit. Where does Juventus Black and White come from? None other than Notts County! Do Wollongong have to drop Wolves from their name, if not where are Soccer Australia drawing the line. If Marconi are sacked then its time Soccer Australia management pulled out and gave it to someone who knows about the game. Not just for individual glorification but for the good of the game should be the motto. At present I have my doubts. I am Australian/Anglo Saxon born and bred and have not got a problem with club emblems. If you can't market a team's history then what do you market? Marconi is Marconi, their symbol includes a boomerang which is more Australian than most!

Aston Villa has broken their transfer record for Bolton star Sasa Cucic. It will be a bitter blow for the Trotters but Villa's midfield is looking stronger daily. Meanwhile Leeds may be in trouble for fuelling media speculation about Trevor Sinclair joining Lee Sharpe in the Leeds midfield. QPR says he is going nowhere and are incensed that Leeds have allegedly inferred otherwise. Niall Quinn has rejoined Peter Reid this time at Sunderland, (the players of the Nationwide Leagues will have to look for a new spokesman). This will make room for Damian Mori.

This week's non League side to focus on is Enfield. Unfortunately the side has not got a very good ground and in the last two seasons this has prevented promotion. They do have their share of ex pros but lack of facilities sees the club fairly stagnant. However, this is gradually changing and it would be great to have a real north, north London club, they would love to replace Watford or Luton in League football. They won't be a Premier League club but they could perform well enough in the lower leagues.

Optus Vision are now showing the Sunday game, delayed, and the Monday night game live from the English Premier League for all you fans who can't have enough football.

St Mirren's Duncan Walker scored 8 goals in the first three days of the 1921-22 season. John Jepson of Accrington scored three hat tricks against Wrexham in 1925/26. In 1982 Kerry Dixon scored 4 goals for Reading and yet Doncaster beat them 8-5. In 1957-59 QPR drew 1-1 in six successive games.

The Charity Shield showed its great to buy a forward but next time you might spread the money to buy three quality defenders!! Striking power was never really the weakness on Tyneside, rather the central defenders - someone should introduce Albert to Peacock.

Tough Euro draw for United

European champion Juventus will face English league and cup double winner Manchester United in this season's European Champions' League.

The draw made last week pitted Juventus, who beat Dutch champions Ajax Amsterdam 4-2 on penalties in last year's final, against Alex Ferguson's European hopeful in Group C.

The other two teams in the group are last season's Cup Winners' Cup runners-up Rapid Vienna and Fenerbahce of Turkey.

Juventus meets United in Turin on September 11, with the return match at Old Trafford on November 20.

United has dominated the premier league in the 1990s, winning three English championships in four years, but has consistently failed in Europe, crashing out of the European Cup to Galatasaray of Turkey and Spain's Barcelona at their last two attempts.

United has not lifted a European Trophy since 1991 when it beat Barcelona in the Cup Winners' Cup Final, and its one and only European Cup triumph was way back in 1968, when it beat Benfica of Portugal 4-1 at Wembley.

Juventus has won the European Cup twice.

Rovers take point at Old Trafford

A goal each from new signings JORDI CRUYFF and OLE GUNNAR SOLSKJAER allowed English premier league champions Manchester United to come from behind twice and force a 2-2 draw with 1995 champions Blackburn Rovers at Old Trafford.

Blackburn, still smarting from the pre-season loss of England striker ALAN SHEARER to Newcastle United and the departure last week of director of football KENNY DALGLISH, deserved its share of the points against unbeaten United.

PAUL WARHURST put Blackburn ahead after 34 minutes but a mistake by COLIN HENDRY five



minutes later allowed Dutch international Cruyff to steal in for the equaliser.

Blackburn reclaimed the lead six minutes into the second half through Norwegian LARS BOHINAN but Norwegian Solksjaer squared the match seven minutes after coming on as a 63rd minute substitute.

NEWCASTLE STRUGGLING TO PERFORM

Newcastle's French star David Ginola is poised to quit the Premiership side after he launched a scathing attack on manager Kevin Keegan.

As Newcastle struggles to find the form that had it fighting for the championship last season, Ginola is upset over the way he is being asked to play.

"I spend more time defending than I do attacking," complained the Frenchman who has been linked to both Arsenal and Barcelona.

"I want to give my best but Newcastle's present system just doesn't

suit me," he added.

Soon to be named Arsenal manager Arsene Wenger has made no secret of his appreciation of Ginola's skills and he refuses to rule out the possibility of signing him.

Ginola's agent Olivier Godalier said Keegan was on the brink of selling the 29-year-old winger to Barcelona last month.

Newcastle has spent nearly \$AUS120 million over the past two years in its attempt to build a championship winning side but hopes this season were severely dented after a crushing 2-1 defeat at home to Sheffield Wednesday on

Saturday.

"That's probably the worst performance in my reign as manager," moaned Keegan.

"Our performances so far this season have been poor and we will have to start soon if we want to win anything."

Newcastle chairman Sir John Hall, who has bankrolled the club's spending spree, is reported to have had a crisis meeting with Keegan and his assistant Terry McDermott.

According to the Sunday Mirror, Hall told Keegan that he wanted trophies this season, not entertaining football.

UK STORIES

United struggle at home

Alan Shearer, the world's most expensive player, scored with a brilliant free-kick on his home debut for Newcastle in a 2-0 win over Wimbledon in the English Premier League last Wednesday.

At Old Trafford, both the Everton goals came in the first half courtesy of big striker Duncan Ferguson on his 50th appearance for the Merseyside club.

But Jordi Cruyff pulled one back for the champions with a fine header 20 minutes from time and with eight minutes left Everton's David Unsworth, attempting to clear, only succeeded in turning the ball over his own line.

At St James's Park, Newcastle were set on their way in the third minute by another costly ex-Blackburn player, David Batty, who chipped over Wimbledon keeper Neil Sullivan from 30 metres. Shearer finally got in on the act with just two minutes left.

Fouled by Chris Perry, the Newcastle-born striker decided to take the free-kick himself and from 20 metres curled it into the corner of the net.

Shearer wheeled away in delight as Newcastle sealed their first victory of the season and went some way to forgetting the disappointment of their 2-0 defeat at Everton and the 4-0 Charity Shield drubbing by Manchester United.

Serie A came to Chelsea, along with various other Europeans and Brazilians, with big things expected of

Chelsea's Gianluca Vialli and Middlesbrough's Fabrizio Ravanelli, a hat-trick scorer against Liverpool on Saturday.

But it was midfielder Di Matteo, a costly close season

signing from Lazio, who broke the deadlock to earn Ruud Gullit his first win as a manager.

Gareth Southgate, the man whose missed penalty sent England out of Euro 96, gave

Aston Villa a 64th minute winner — but not from the penalty spot — at home to a dispirited Blackburn who could offer little in response as they went down 1-0.

Sunderland found a rich vein of scoring form at Nottingham Forest with first half strikes from Michael Gray, Richard Ord and two goals from new signing Niall Quinn.

Alf-Inge Haaland provided the only consolation as the North East side went in 4-1 at the interval and that is how it stayed to cheer manager Peter Reid and the Sunderland faithful.

Teddy Sheringham presented Tottenham with a 34th minute lead at home to Derby, but the visitors, who earned a late draw at home to Leeds on Saturday, did the same again, thanks to Christian Dailly.

Leicester were indebted to promising youngster Emile Heskey who struck in the sixth and 42nd minutes against Southampton.

An otherwise quiet Matt Le Tissier, in front of watching England manager Glenn Hoddle, gave his side hope from the penalty spot after 68 minutes, but Leicester held on for a 2-1 win with Southampton's Barry Venison sent off.

Gary McAllister showed Coventry the way forward when his 12th minute goal gave his new side the lead over West Ham.

But the Hammers surged back in the second half and deservedly levelled with a 74th minute equaliser from defender Marc Kieper.



Alan Shearer: (Still in his old colours) enjoying mixed fortunes at Newcastle.

Wednesday win at Leeds

Youngsters Richie Humphreys and Andy Booth showed Leeds United's old men the way to goal to give Sheffield Wednesday a 2-0 away win and their second straight English premier league victory of the new season last Tuesday.

Humphreys, 18, marked only his second start for his home town club by netting in the 2-1 win over Aston Villa on Saturday.

At a rain-soaked Elland Road it was the teenager's sweetly-struck 14th-minute effort that gave David Pleat's side the edge in the battle for Yorkshire pride and put Wednesday on top of the table.

Lee Bowyer, one of five Leeds men making home debuts, gave the ball away to Regi Blinker and although the Dutchman's shot was blocked it fell perfectly for Humphreys to fire left-footed across and past Nigel Martyn.

Blinker created the injury-time second that allowed 23-year-old Booth to stride through and open his premier league account after his \$A5.2 million move from Huddersfield.

But Leeds, with Ian Rush and on-loan Mark Hateley comprising a 68-year-old strike pairing must have been wondering how they had come away with nothing.

Rush suffered twice on his 700th domestic appearance, and with fellow new boys Bowyer and Lee Sharpe also left holding their heads, Leeds had reason for feeling hard done by.

In division one, Danish international Per Frandsen's stunning goal for Bolton toppled title favourites Manchester City 1-0 at Burnden Park.

BLACKBURN AND DALGLISH PART

Blackburn director of football Kenny Dalglish is leaving the club by mutual agreement, the English Premiership club announced last week.

Robert Coar, the Lancashire club's chairman, made the dramatic announcement at the press conference that followed Rovers' 1-0 defeat at Aston

Villa.

Coar said Ray Harford would continue as first-team coach and would have complete control of the footballing side of the club.

Former Liverpool player and manager Dalglish guided Blackburn to the Premiership title in 1995 before taking on his director's role last season.

RANGERS SALVAGE NARROW WIN

England's inspirational midfielder Paul Gascoigne marked his return to the starting line-up with a winning goal as Scottish champions Glasgow Rangers beat newly-promoted Dundee United 1-0 on the weekend.

Gascoigne, who has been shaking off injury and had previously only appeared as a substitute this season, broke the deadlock at Ibrox 14 minutes from time to salvage Rangers' 100 percent record from three games.

Making his first start since England's European championship semi-final against Germany in June, the 29-year-old curled a 16-metre shot beyond 'keeper Ally Maxwell.

Maxwell managed to save a last minute penalty from Gordon Durie but his Dundee team mates failed to find an equaliser.

"It took a bit of magic from Gascoigne to win it for us and that completes a great week for the club," said manager Walter Smith, whose side hammered Russia's Alania Vladikavkaz 7-2 on Wednesday.

Rangers, attempting to match Glasgow Celtic's record of nine consecutive Scottish championship titles, are two points clear of Celtic and four clear of third-placed Motherwell, which won 3-0 at struggling Raith.

Celtic came from behind late in the second half to win 3-1 at Kilmarnock.

The home side went ahead through midfielder Mark Reilly before Italian Paolo Di Canio sparked Celtic's fightback with a well-taken strike on the hour. Andy Thom and Jorge Cadete wrapped up the points for the visitors with a goal apiece.

Scots struggle, Welsh push on

Aberdeen qualified for the first round of the UEFA Cup last week, but was given the fright of its life by the Lithuanian minnows Zalgiris Vilnius before booking its place in last Friday's draw.

Zalgiris won 3-1 but after trailing 4-1 from the first leg qualifier on its own ground it lost 5-4 on aggregate.

The visitors had only arrived in Aberdeen in the early hours of Tuesday morning following a 12-hour coach trip from London.

But it was the Scots who looked travel-sick as the slick visitors pulled them apart.

It was no surprise when Grhzydas Mikulenas shot Zalgiris into a 53rd minute lead as he burst clear on the right before angling a devastating shot back across Michael Watt.

Aberdeen did look more urgent in its attacking play in the second half, but captain Brian Irvine blundered badly in the 76th minute, fouling Mikulenas in the penalty area. Puklevicius stepped up to drill home the resulting spotkick.



Brian Irvine: Villain turned hero for the Dons.

That came with just 14 minutes to go and Irvine made amends by seemingly putting the tie beyond doubt with just five minutes to go, sending a soaring header into the top corner of the net from a Joe Miller corner.

But Vilnius was not

finished. Mikulenas went straight up the other end of the field to hammer in another cracking drive from the edge of the penalty area to set up a tense finale.

In Glasgow, Jorge Cadete fired Celtic into the first round with a dramatic late winner

against FC Kosice.

The Portuguese star struck with only two minutes to go after the Slovakian side had been reduced to 10 men with the 86th minute sending-off of Karol Prazenica for his second bookable offence.

His absence gave Celtic the gap it was looking for and Cadete swept the ball home after Andreas Thom and Morten Wieghorst had linked up. Celtic took the tie 1-0 on aggregate after a 0-0 scoreline in the first leg.

Barry Town was the toast of Wales as they came back from the dead to knock out Hungarians Budapest Vasutas 4-2 in a thrilling penalty shoot-out.

Barry, 3-1 down from the first leg, forced extra-time with a 3-1 result that thrilled a capacity 2,500 crowd.

Then, after holding out against a late onslaught from the Hungarian league runners-up, Barry coolly slotted home four penalties while Hungarians Jorge Bognar and Zoltan Buzsagi failed to hit the target.

WEDNESDAY SHOCK NEWCASTLE

Guy Whittingham's late winner at Newcastle kept surprise leader Sheffield Wednesday on top of the English Premier League with a 2-1 victory at St. James Park on Saturday.

David Pleat's team, which spent most of last season struggling to avoid relegation, remains the only team with a 100 percent record with nine points from three games.

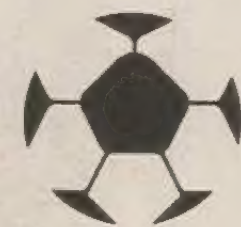
Alan Shearer scored for the second game in a row as Newcastle went ahead from the penalty spot in the 13th minute. But Peter Atherton levelled for Wednesday two minutes later and Whittingham fired the winner 10 minutes from the end after being put clear of the Magpies' defence.

Gianluca Vialli's first goal in English soccer helped Chelsea move up to second place after a 2-0 victory over struggling Coventry.

That result gave Ruud Gullit's team seven points and

Chelsea's first goal also was a first in English soccer for French defender Frank Lebeuf. Coventry's Irish international defender, Liam Daish, was sent off when his team was already 1-0 down.

Arsenal moved third after scoring a 2-0 victory at newcomer Leicester with a penalty from Dutch striker Dennis Bergkamp and a goal from substitute Ian Wright.



Aston Villa climbed to fourth after beating another promoted team, Derby, with goals from substitute Julian

Joachim and Tommy Johnson.

Sunderland, the third promoted team, remained unbeaten after three games by gaining a 0-0 tie at strong contender Liverpool. Sunderland now is fifth and Liverpool sixth.

One of Middlesbrough's three Brazilians, Juninho, fired his team ahead at Nottingham Forest from a pass by countryman Emerson. But Forest's England veteran Stuart Pearce powered in an equaliser for 1-1 at the City Ground, where 'Boro defender Nigel Pearson was sent off near the end.

Tottenham and Everton laboured to a 0-0 draw at White Hart Lane while West Ham hit back from a goal down to edge Southampton 2-1 at Upton Park.

After Neil Heaney had given the Saints the lead, Michael Hughes levelled and then Julian Dicks fired home a penalty for the winner.

NSW SOCCER FEDERATION SUPER LEAGUE ADAMSTOWN ROSEBUD



BACK ROW (L-R): MICHAEL WAGSTAFF (TEAM MANAGER), ADAM SANDERSON, STEVEN KACEY, GRAHAM JENNINGS, DAVID BOCK,
CAMERON HUDSON, JOHN MCQUARRIE, ROCCO DE GRANDIS, NEVILLE POWER (COACH).

FRONT ROW (L-R): BENN LANE, DALE ROBERTSON, ALLAN GILDAY, CLINT GOSLING, NEIL OWENS, LIAM BAKER, GEORGE SAFOURIS,
SCOTT THOMAS.